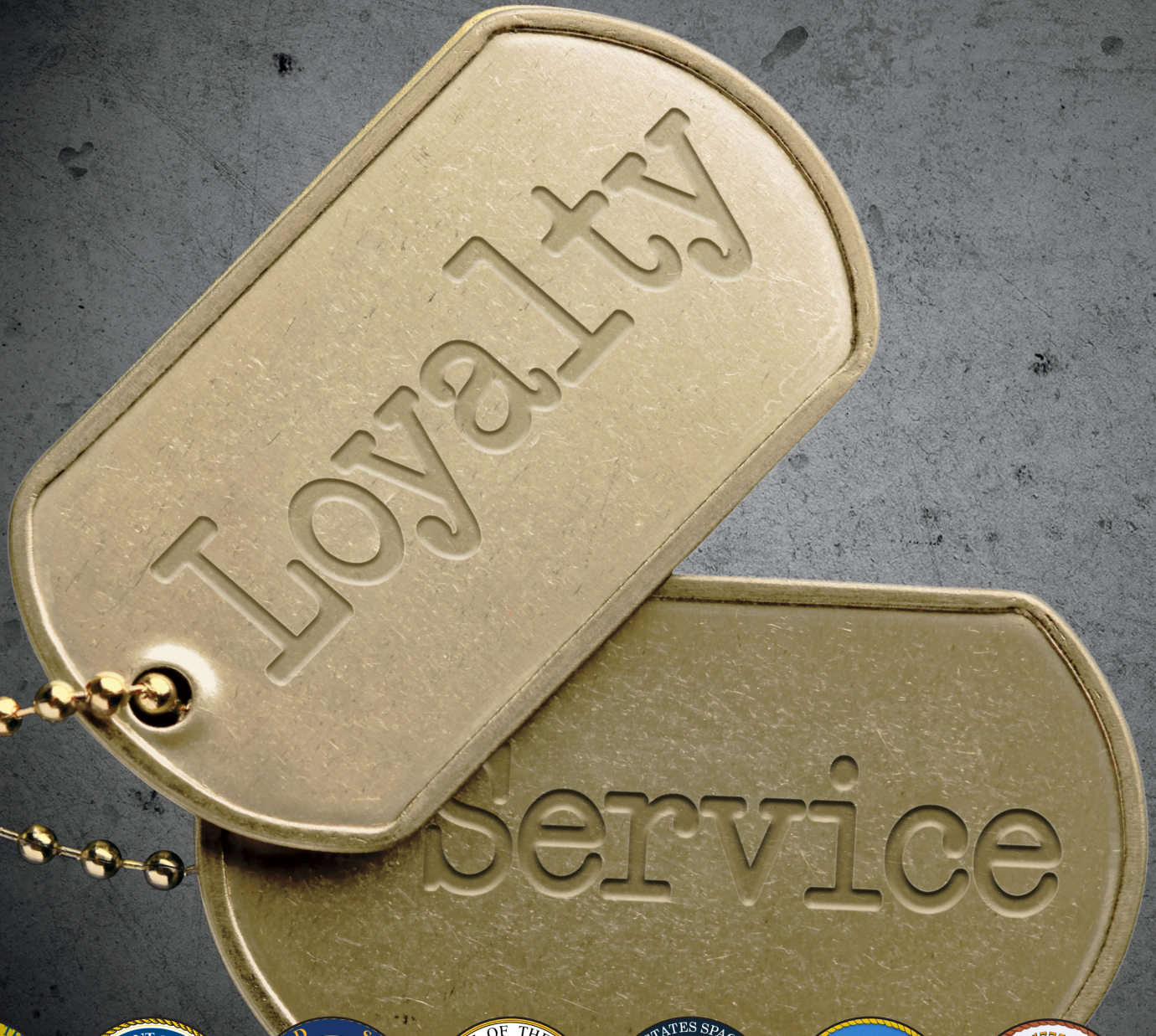


The Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade is proud to have been selected  
as a National Veterans Day Event Site for the 2024 Veterans Day Commemoration

# Veterans Day

November 11, 2024



# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



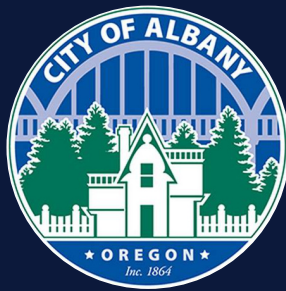
# COASTAL IS PROUD OF ALL VETERANS



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# ★ ★ ★ **EVENTS** ★ ★ ★

*Below is a list of events  
which will take place around Veterans Day.*

## **Wall of Honor**

Heritage Mall, 1895 SE 14th Ave  
Wednesday November 6th - Tuesday, November 12th

## **Veterans Uniforms on Display**

Downtown Albany  
Wednesday November 6th - Tuesday, November 12th

## **Celebration of Americas 250th**

8 panel display created by District 4 OSSDAR chapters  
Featuring: Albany, Corvallis, Eugene, Stayton, Salem, and Lebanon  
Public display: Albany Regional Museum November 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Willamette Valley Concert Band - Annual Veterans Day Concert**

Russell Tripp Performance Center,  
Linn-Benton Community College, Albany Campus  
Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> - Time: 2:00 PM

## **Veteran of the Year Banquet**

National Guard Building, 3800 Knox Butte Road E  
Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> - Time: 6:00 PM

## **Veterans Day Breakfast hosted by the Albany Optimist Club and the Albany Optimist Foundation**

West Albany High School, 2100 Elm Street SW  
Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 6:30 AM to 9:30 AM

## **Veterans Day Memorial Service**

(Flyover by U.S. Coast Guard - approximately 9 AM)  
Veterans Memorial, Timber Linn Park, 900 Price Rd SE  
Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 8:30 AM

## **Veterans Day Parade**

(Flyover by U.S. Coast Guard - approximately 11:50 AM)  
Downtown Albany Parade Route  
Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 11:00 AM

## **Spaghetti Lunch**

American Legion Post 10, 1215 Pacific Blvd SE  
Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 11:00 - 2:00 PM

## **All Services Star and Stripes Ball**

Knife River Training Center, 35973 Kennel Road SE  
Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> - Time: 5:30 PM

## **The American Legion Post 10**

1215 Pacific Blvd., Albany, Oregon  
(Breakfast) Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 7-9:00 AM  
(Lunch) Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Time: 11-2:00 PM

Check out our events page at: <https://linncountyveteransparade.org/events> for any additional events, or changes.



# President's Message

## Christine Ferguson

As we move forward to the Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2024, here in Albany, it is my pleasure to be the one "in charge." Since the parade of 2022 was the first time I had ever embarked on such a challenge, I was a bit skeptical. But I was richly rewarded with wonderful stories from many sources, and I'd like to share three of them with you.

The first story is about some of the women who built the ships and airplanes during World War II, collectively known as Rosie the Riveter. They worked through all kinds of conditions to build the ships and planes that our "Boys" sailed and flew during the war. I received a call from a care home near Roseburg telling me that six of these women would like to be in our parade. After explaining to them about "Jay's Boys," a group of veterans from WWII and the Korean War who always participate, I asked if they would like to be staged in front of them. I heard a voice from the back of the room say, "No, dearie, no." Then, the speaker picked up the phone and said, "We support our boys, we stand behind our boys, but we are never in front of our boys." By the end of our conversation, I had tears streaming down my cheeks, and we dutifully staged the Rosie the Riveters behind Jay's Boys.

The second story is about a group called the Donut Dolls. During WWII, the USO had canteens where they served coffee and doughnuts to servicemen, providing a willing ear and a smile. When I asked if we had any actual WWII Donut Dolls in our parade, the woman I spoke with said no—this group consisted of psychologists and counselors who work specifically with female veterans with PTSD. Because they help these women so much, they were given the honorarium Donut Dolls. Again, by the end of that conversation, I was in tears.

The third story is about a local hero who isn't a service veteran but is a hero in my estimation. She is the director of the Special Olympics program here in Linn County. During the time leading up to the parade of 2022, she was battling cancer, undergoing chemo treatments, and still working with the Special Olympics participants. She called and asked if it was too late for her to get her kids in the parade—a week

before the event when the deadline for entries had long passed. After talking to her, I knew those Olympians were going to be in the parade. I told her if she was able to come to my home and fill out the form, I would see that her Olympians would be included. She arrived within the hour, and we spent time talking about the Olympians she works with. Again, I was left with tears in my eyes, deeply touched by her dedication.

Our Linn County Veterans Day Parade this year starts at 11 a.m. on November 11. We're looking forward to seeing everyone there, especially after surviving the two years of isolation from COVID. Traditionally, the parade in Albany, Oregon, has been the largest Veterans Day parade west of the Mississippi and the third largest in the USA. We have worked hard to make this year's parade as close as we can to the family-friendly, community celebrations of your childhood.

Albany, Oregon, has celebrated Armistice/Veterans Day for 103 years, continuously since 1919. World War I ended on November 11, 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. Thus, the first celebration of the end of "the war to end all wars" was November 11, 1919. President Woodrow Wilson's proclamation, made a year later, expressed gratitude for the victory and a hope for enduring peace.







The first decades of Armistice Day celebrations were very different from the current parade and accompanying Memorial Service. Early celebrations included log rolling, pistol shooting, horse racing, and cake baking competitions. According to newspaper articles of the time, celebrations started small and grew into whole weekend events with picnics, riverboat competitions, and friendly community competitions.

In 1945, Representative Ed Rees from Emporia, Kansas, introduced a bill to make Armistice Day a day to include all veterans from all eras. President Eisenhower signed the bill into law, and on June 1, 1954, the day was renamed Veterans Day. For a short time from 1971 through 1977, Veterans Day was celebrated as a Monday holiday, but in 1978 it returned to November 11, where it remains today.

In 1951, Ted Lovelace and a group of local veterans and community leaders formed the Linn County Veterans Council, which would become the foundation of our Veterans Day parade. Their goal was to make Linn County the most patriotic county in the country. By 1954, when Veterans Day was proclaimed a national holiday, the parade had grown to a mile long.

During the 1950s and early 1960s, the parade expanded with dignitaries from Camp Adair, congressmen, and even the governor of Oregon making Linn County "the place to be" for Veterans Day. Hollywood celebrities like Raymond Burr, Audie Murphy, General Jimmy Doolittle, Jesse Owens, and Bob Hope joined the parade.

Even as some communities treated veterans with indifference or even hostility, our Veterans Day Parade was always enthusiastically supported. Many organizations participated in the celebrations, from pancake breakfasts to essay competitions. Astronauts, generals, movie stars, and government officials put aside their ranks for the weekends here in Albany, recognizing those who have and continue to serve.

As years passed, the participation of organizations like the Boy Scouts dwindled, and the parade struggled to find leadership as people moved away or became too busy. This is when Louie White, Ed Horinek, and Ernie Argo stepped up to keep the tradition alive. By the end of the 20th century, interest in attending the parade remained strong, but fewer people were interested in organizing it. The Linn County Veterans Council disbanded, and the Veterans Commemoration Association took over, led by Pat Morits.

Pat handed over leadership to Louie White, who managed it for a few years until Patty Louisiana took charge from 2011 through 2019. Then came COVID-19, which disrupted our beloved tradition for two years. Colonel Chris Reese, president of the Albany YMCA, and his assistant McCall Washburn had the brilliant idea to host reverse parades. This unique solution involved setting up 35 displays around Albany with QR codes. As people drove around town, they could wave at veterans and collect codes to apply for prizes.

We extend our gratitude to Colonel Reese, McCall Washburn, and their helpers for keeping alive our tradition of being the most patriotic county in the country. This year, I hope you'll join us in honoring our veterans, celebrating our history, and keeping alive the spirit of Albany's





# Linn County Veterans Services

## *Serving our local Veterans*

**Our goal is to ensure that Veterans and their dependents receive maximum benefits to which they are entitled. We assist with VA disability claims, pension, medical benefits and survivor and dependent services and more.**



**FREE VETERANS MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION**

**TRANSPORTATION FOR LINN COUNTY VETERANS**

TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE FOR ANY VA OR NON-VA MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

**PLEASE CALL LINN COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES NOW TO SCHEDULE YOUR RIDE.**

**Call our office at 541-967-3882**

Linn County Veterans Services has partnered with Quality Medical Transportation. We are offering Linn County Veterans free transportation to any VA or Non-VA medical facilities within Oregon. This Funding for transportation was received through grants, which were awarded from ODVA and ODOT. Transportation may be limited due to the amount of funds Linn County Veterans Services receives each month and the availability of Quality Medical. Please call to schedule your ride, and allow a minimum of 72 hours' notice prior to your appointment

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**541-967-3882**

**Linnvet@co.linn.or.us**



## *Support Our Veterans*

Tri-State Chapter



# Thank You!

*Albany Downtown Association*

*Albany Fire Department*

*Albany Gun and Sportsman Show*

*Bejan Rejaian*

*Chris Reese*

*City of Albany*

*Permits Department*

*Transportation Operations*

*Delores Peterson*

*Dan David*

*Heart of the Valley Home Shows*

*HP*

*I-5 Sports*

*Linn County*

*Sheriff's Department*

*Sheriff's Mounted Posse*

*Officer David Vaughn*

*McCall Washburn*

*Oregon Air National Guard*

*Oregon National Guard*

*Peter Troedsson*

*Pop's Branding Iron*

*Restaurant and Lounge*

*Randy Martinak*

*Rick Barnette*

*Steve Adams*

*U. S. Coast Guard*

*VFW Linn Auxiliary 584*

*VFW Linn Post 584*

*Wally and Peter Ordeman*

*WesKnodelGunShows*

*Inc*

*Xtreme Grafx*

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Eugene Police Officer)*

*Morningstar Grange*

# Linn County

## Veterans Day Parade

### 2024 Officers:

#### Board:

Will Tucker – County Commissioner

Jonald Gradwohl – HP

Quentin Winegar – NCIS

Jennifer Martin – VFW – Secretary

Cathy Baker – Treasurer

Danny Perry – Magazine Editor

#### Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

Christine Ferguson – President

Jay Burcham

Jay Grenard

Dee Bailey-Hyder

Amanda Fee

Al Severson

John Jackson

Sylvester Basnight

Shawn Todd

Arnold Poole

#### Veteran of the Year Banquet:

Mark Lamberty – President

Samantha Moon

Randy Martinak

Norene Collins

Ashley Ranch

Danny Perry

And many more

#### Memorial Service:

LCVMA President: Robin Nygren

Keynote Speaker: Michael Aaron, Link Up Vets

Vincent Jaques, SGM ORANG, Retired

Gun Salute: ORANG

#### Parade Staging & Coordination:

Jonald Gradwohl

Brian Easton



# Grand Marshall

Dr. Derrick Sorweide, DO, FACOFP

Dr. Derrick Sorweide, DO, FACOFP, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, where he serves as the Medical Readiness and Training Command Surgeon for the Reserve Component. He has been deployed as an emergency medical treatment provider, supporting troops in Kuwait and Iraq. In his role as Officer in Charge of Special Clinical Services with a Combat Support Hospital, he trains both Army medics and nurses. His extensive military service includes additional training in combat casualty care.

Dr. Sorweide is also the Director of Clinical Education at Western University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific-Northwest (COMP-Northwest). A founding member of the campus, he has been with the university since it opened. He is an associate professor of family medicine, cardiovascular curriculum lead, and advisor to multiple student organizations. Previously, Dr. Sorweide practiced family medicine in Grants Pass, Oregon, for 16 years.



A passionate advocate for medical education, Dr. Sorweide serves on national and state boards, including the Oregon Health Evidence Review Committee. He was the OPSO Physician of the Year in 2017 and continues to prioritize the development of future osteopathic physicians.





# Native American Representative

Staff Sargent Raymond L. Petitel

**Raymond L Petite**

US Army Staff Sergeant, Retired

**Years of Service:** 20

**Awards:** National Defense Service, Republic of Vietnam Campaign, Good Conduct Medals, Army Commendation 1st OLC, Army Achievement 1st OKC, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, PLODC, BLC

**MOS:** Transportation

**Stationed:** Alaska: Fort Greely, New Jersey: Fort Dix, Kansas: Fort Riley, Colorado: Fort Carson, Washington: Fort Lewis, California: Fort Ord, Mannheim, Germany, Korea: Camp Humphries

**Took part in** Reforger exercise while in Germany.

**Tours** in Korea and Vietnam.

## **After Retirement:**

Joined the Grand Ronde Honor Guard in 2012. He proudly represented all veterans with passion as a volunteer. A few years later, when a spot opened, he applied for a position on the board. In 2022, Raymond was chosen to head the honor guard. He regularly takes part in events such as honoring veterans who have walked on, parades, and granting monies to veterans' causes. He says, "It is a privilege to serve and represent all those who made the vow to protect this great country of ours."





# Colonel Thomas H. Kirk JR.

## Special Guest

On October 28, 1967, 38-year-old Thomas H. Kirk Jr. '50B departed Takhli Air Base in Thailand flying an F-105 Thunderchief, leading a squadron of 48 bombers in the largest air raid on Hanoi during the Vietnam War. His target: the heavily defended Paul Doumer Bridge. A seasoned pilot with 50 missions in the Korean War, this was his 67th mission in Vietnam. As Kirk dove to release his bombs, his aircraft was struck by a surface-to-air missile. Despite the damage, he completed his attack, hitting the target and destroying the bridge's span. However, his plane was severely damaged, and he lost control. With no other option, he ejected at 600 knots, suffering injuries that left him temporarily blind.



After regaining consciousness, Kirk found himself captured by Vietnamese villagers and taken to the infamous Hoa Lo Prison—known as the Hanoi Hilton. Over the next five and a half years, he endured extreme torture and solitary confinement for two years. He weighed just 90 pounds at his lowest point. Kirk stayed resilient by walking four miles daily in his 8-foot-long cell, playing a pretend flute, and communicating with other prisoners using a tap code. His worst moment came when he was isolated from other prisoners, leading to severe depression and thoughts of suicide. Kirk turned to prayer and found the strength to continue.

Despite the hardships, Kirk formed close bonds with fellow POWs, including John McCain. Upon his release



in 1973, he returned to the United States and continued his Air Force career, flying 22 different aircraft types and serving in various prestigious positions. Kirk earned an Air Force Cross, four Silver Stars, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, and numerous other decorations, making him the most decorated VMI graduate of the Vietnam War.

Kirk's life after the military was equally impressive. He had a successful career as a financial planner in Europe, opened pizza restaurants in Spain, and operated a sailboat charter business. He continued to play music, a lifelong passion, and even became a ski instructor and real estate investor in Vail, Colorado.

Now retired in Arizona, Kirk remains active, golfing and sharing his story. He was inducted into the Arizona Military Hall of Fame and proudly attributes much of his resilience and success to his time at VMI. His guiding philosophy: "Every day above ground is a great day" and "Use every day of your life to learn, work hard, and perform well, whatever the situation."





# SAR

## Sons of the American Revolution



The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) is a national historical, non-profit, non-political, community-oriented organization open to all male descendants of American Revolutionary Patriots. A primary objective is to preserve and perpetuate the deeds of those brave and gallant patriots which ultimately lead to the formation of the United States of America.

SAR is the largest male lineage organization in the United States and consists of 50 state-level societies with more than 500 local chapters, several international societies (including Canada, France, Germany, Mexico, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom), and over 36,000 members. Prominent SAR members include sixteen U.S. presidents, U.S. senators and representatives, local business and community leaders, as well as foreign dignitaries such as Sir Winston Churchill, and Kings Juan Carlos I and Felipe VI of Spain.

SAR membership requires genealogical proof of being a direct male descendant of a Revolutionary War Patriot. The SAR does not restrict membership on basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, nation of citizenship or residency. To establish eligibility, an applicant must be able to confirm that he is a direct ancestral line descendant of a Patriot by providing appropriate SAR acceptable documentation.

To quote the SAR Bylaws, "Any male shall be eligible for membership in the SAR who is a citizen of good repute in the community; and a lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unfailing in loyalty to and rendered acceptable service in the cause of American Independence."

The Oregon Society, SAR was organized in 1891, and has Chapters in Salem, Bend, Medford, and Portland.

The Republic Chapter of the Oregon SAR, located in Salem and chartered in 1973, has members from all walks of life, such as educators, clergy, carpenters, attorneys, doctors, and welders. Our age group is diverse.

The Republic Chapter SAR is duly constituted in the Oregon Society, Sons of the American Revolution. As such, we maintain a constitution and by-laws by which we govern ourselves and conduct the business of the chapter. The Bylaws contain descriptions of the responsibilities of the Chapter Officers and committees.

The Republic Chapter area includes Marion, Yamhill, Lincoln, Linn, Lane, Coos, and Benton Counties in Oregon. However, the Chapter is pleased to have members as far away as South Carolina, New Mexico, Idaho, and Washington.

Some of the many projects SAR is involved in are:

- **Preservation of historic battlefields, parks, and cemeteries**
- **Clean-up and restoration of historic community and pioneer cemeteries**
- **Locating, identifying and marking previously unmarked graves of patriots**
- **Re-enactments and community based Living History programs**
- **Preservation of historical documents**
- **Community based Genealogy and Family-History research programs and workshops**
- **Scholarly publications and lectures**
- **College scholarships awarded annually**

Many of our chapter members are avid genealogists and lovers of history. To this regard we have established volunteers to assist members and prospective members in their genealogy and family research at no charge.

Chapter members are often found working as volunteers in local libraries, schools, Scouting, historical societies, genealogy societies, veteran's hospitals, senior centers, re-enactments, and a variety of community service organizations. Our chapter is an active member of Friends of Pioneer Cemetery. As such, we annually perform restoration and preservation work on grave stones and massive monuments in Salem's Historic Pioneer Cemetery. Prominent local, state and national business, organizations and regular everyday folks have recognized our Chapter as an asset to the community and to the state of Oregon.

*Cont'd on Pg. 14*



Cont'd from Pg 13

The Republic Chapter SAR enjoys a membership rich in culture. We are ever mindful that brave patriots of all races and creeds spilled their blood on the fields of battle to help in the formation of this great nation. We rejoice in the company of our members of diverse backgrounds – for all of our members come to us the same way: down the path of ancestral pride.

We hold regular monthly meetings on the third Saturday of the month, except for July and August. We meet at the Salem Public Library.

The Chapter fully supports Oregon and National Society programs and projects; particularly the medals and awards program which recognizes both SAR members and other citizens who have distinguished themselves by services to others or by outstanding achievements in their communities. The Chapter also supports the Eagle Scout Program of the National Society.

For information about becoming a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and about joining the Republic Chapter in the Oregon Society SAR, contact Compatriot Russ Erickson at 503.866.4714, [russerickson3@gmail.com](mailto:russerickson3@gmail.com).

# Distinguished Veterans



## Diamond Sponsor



## Silver Sponsor



## Gold Sponsors



## Bronze Sponsor





# Salute to Gene Hellman

Story by: Bill Clotere, Maj. U S Army Retired

One Sunday at church, one Veterans Day, our pastor asked all veterans to stand and be recognized. As I looked around, I saluted a fellow veteran standing near me. We had a "Hi, how are you" relationship, and one day after church, I was talking with his niece. During the conversation, she mentioned that Gene had seven brothers who had also served in the military! I said, "Give me the information on that. I would certainly like to share the Hellman family patriotism story with Albany and the Willamette Valley!"

Gene has been selected as one of the 2024 distinguished veterans. He and his brother Matt Hellman, who was



Gene Hellman (left)

recognized as a distinguished veteran seven years ago, share a remarkable family legacy.

The rest of the story is that the Hellman family, father Valentine and mother Theresa, had three girls and ten boys. Eight of the men served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Gene and Matt both left their home shortly after Gene's graduation. They took a train from their home in Glen Ullin, ND, to Fargo, ND, where they enlisted in the Air Force. A couple of days later, they were shipped off to Lackland Air Force Base, where they attended basic training and both became classified field clerks (meaning they passed Secret Clearances).

## *And his Seven Brothers*

Gene served at a couple of Air Force bases in the lower 48 states and then spent the bulk of his career at Ladd Air Force Base in Alaska. As a classified clerk, he was responsible for reviewing all incoming classified material and distributing it to the responsible NCOs and officers. Upon completion of his tour of duty, Gene returned to North Dakota. Over the next eight years, Gene and four of his brothers migrated to the Willamette Valley, as the job market in North Dakota wasn't very strong.

Matt and Gene both had long careers with Willamette Industries. The other three brothers, Jack, worked in the plywood industry; James at USPS; and Valentine at OSU.

The attached picture shows five of the brothers in uniform. It did not include the two older brothers who had already completed their military obligations and Valentine, who had not yet joined. Four of the brothers lived in Albany, and the fifth in Jefferson.

Matt and Gene are the two surviving brothers in Oregon, but to them, and to all the Hellman family descendants, THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAMILY'S PATRIOTISM to the USA!





# Mark D. Lamberty

## Veteran of the Year

Mark Lamberty, a veteran of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division "Screaming Eagles," has been a dedicated leader and community servant for over a decade. As Commander of VFW Post 584 for 11 consecutive years, Mark exemplifies selfless service, earning the admiration and respect of his peers and fellow veterans.

Mark's contributions go far beyond his leadership role. He consistently takes on tasks such as maintenance and repairs, ensuring the smooth operation of the Post. His hands-on approach and willingness to do whatever is needed have made him a trusted leader in the community.

In addition to his work at the Post, Mark has been instrumental in fundraising for veterans' programs, securing donations, and raising awareness about essential services. Known for his infectious smile and compassion, he also brings joy to the community by volunteering as Santa Claus and helping provide meals during the holidays.

Mark's unwavering commitment to veterans and his community makes him a true pillar of support and leadership.



# Veteran of the Year

## Nominees





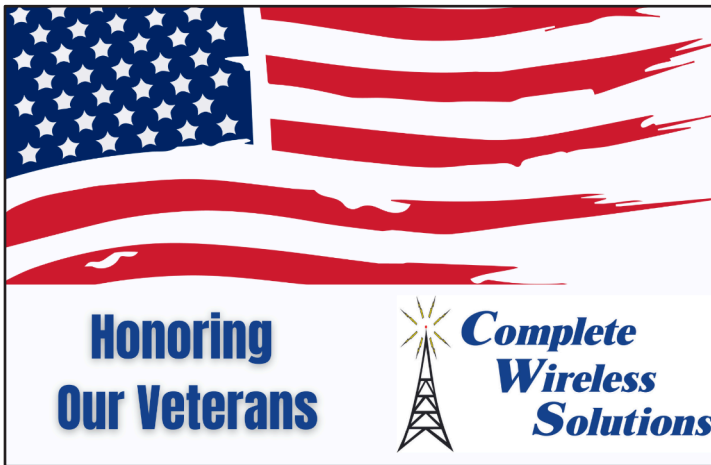


**United in Respect,  
Bound by Gratitude**

**Proud to Help Sponsor...  
Linn County Veterans Day Parade**



**Proudly Standing for  
Those Who Served**





# Link Up Vets

## Our MissionOur Mission

“LINK UP VETS is dedicated to the future success and wellness of our nations Veterans. Through the medium of outdoor adventure and community outreach we create stress free environments to connect like-minded brothers and sisters in arms. These connections form a veteran network that is key in creating a purpose and meaning for our walk-through life. We advocate for benefits and care for our fellow service members no matter what generation they served.”

Founded in 2015 by our President, Michael Aaron, LINK UP VETS has continually been a beacon for local veterans in search of that comrade connection we all created while in the service. Michael served in the United States Marine Corps, with deployment to the WESTPAC, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Upon returning home he found that life outside of the service was much different than being in. So in early 2015, he threw up a banner and started selling t-shirts to make money to take veterans on “outdoor therapy” events. With the enlisted help of Aaron/Carnes family and fellow servicemember, Jason Gardner US Army, they started making impacts in the veteran community.

The first annual Gametime (GT) golf tournament benefitting the organization started that year and there is no reservation in saying without it, we may not have existed as we do today. Under the leadership of Kurt and Jenn, owners of GT, and lifelong friend Chad Harrington with the team at LINK UP VETS they created one of the most successful fundraising events for veterans around. Utilizing the benefits from these events they have taken veterans on hundreds of events to include hiking, hunting, fishing, family fun events, and funded thousands of dollars in community service events helping local disabled and homeless veterans.

In 2021 many additions were made to the Board. Chris Beyerly, Jennifer Waggle, Casey Tibbs, Elizabeth Droscher, and Executive Board additions Buddy Lindsay and Mark Erickson were added and created a team much larger and much stronger than it has ever been. From this, the All Services Stars and Stripes Ball event was founded. Raising money and awareness for the great programs supporting our nations veterans.



At this year's event LINK UP VETS will be unveiling a new vision of sending select veterans on brother/sister building trips and events. As a result of last year's fundraising efforts, we were able to send 15 of our nations heroes on an all inclusive, bucket list event, to salmon fish the beautiful Kenai and Kasilof Rivers of Alaska, with additional offshore Halibut fishing that was testament to our mission. The camaraderie, love, and brotherhood/sisterhood that was formed in these events is unbroken. We watched as these veterans' shared stories and struggles, they all face. In turn, exchanged numbers, resources, connections, and ensured one other we are not alone and that their fight is everyone's fight, "the battle is ours"!

We are firm in our beliefs and our foundation that drives us on our mission to offer our hand up to any, and all veterans and their families who are in need. For those looking for more information find us on Facebook, our website [www.linkupvets.org](http://www.linkupvets.org), or [linkupvets@gmail.com](mailto:linkupvets@gmail.com). We will be excited to share with you and see how our community can continue to build.



**VETERANS**  
**= DAY =**



**11.11.24**

FOR HONOURING THE BRAVE

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**VETERANS DAY**  
 HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

*Thank you Veterans!*

**Elmer's**  
 breakfast • lunch • dinner

Brave Hearts, Strong Nation,  
 Honoring Our Veterans



**HYUNDAI**  
*Albany*  
 OREGON

**Albany**  
 CDJR

**Celebrate  
 Our Veterans!**

**dave's**  **performance hybrids**

Thank You For  
 Your Service

Support Our  
 Veterans



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# Save the Date

## Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade | November 11

Every November, the heart of Albany, Oregon, beats a little stronger as the Linn County Veterans Day Parade fills the streets with patriotic pride. Mark your calendars for November 11th—this beloved community event is an opportunity to honor the men and women who have served our country. The parade not only celebrates our veterans but also brings together families, neighbors, and visitors for a day filled with reflection, gratitude, and unity.

red, white, and blue, with flags waving high and cheers of appreciation echoing through the town.

At the helm of the organizing committee is Christine Ferguson. She jokes, “Prior to this, the biggest thing I had ever organized was a child’s birthday party!” This year marks her third parade as chair, and her passion for the event is clear. As the wife of a 27-year Navy veteran, Christine brings a personal connection to the



Photo Credit: Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade

The Veterans Day Parade in Linn County Oregon is one of the largest west of the Mississippi, a point of pride for locals who eagerly gather to honor those who have defended our freedoms. As the floats pass by, featuring everything from military vehicles to marching bands, there’s a palpable sense of unity in the air. The streets of Albany transform into a sea of

work she does, making sure every detail is in place to properly honor veterans.

Christine and her team of volunteers work tirelessly to make this massive event run smoothly. In fact, the parade requires at least 60 volunteers just for staging and structure. “Fortunately, I have some amazing people with tons of experience who’ve stepped up to help,” she shared with a laugh. “All they asked was for me to stay out of their way!”



But there's still a need for more volunteers—for example, she still needs four additional adult volunteers on the day of the event to assist with senior citizen seating.

The committee has also taken thoughtful steps to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of attendees since Christine has taken the helm. For example, they've added bleacher seating in the Key Bank parking lot for a better viewing experience, and more porta-potties.

Christine and her team are also mindful of keeping Albany clean by ordering extra trash cans along the parade route, encouraging attendees to do their part and keep litter off the streets

One of the new additions this year will surely delight families—there are five announcer stands scattered throughout the parade route, four of which will be hosted by local radio stations. These announcers will keep the energy high by playing fun, upbeat music. “We'll have ‘dancing in the streets’ music to keep the kids engaged during the gap after the hundreds of motorcycles go through,” Christine explained. It's clear that the committee is making every effort to ensure the parade is enjoyable for all ages.

Parades are such a great way to bring our local communities together, and in this case, the Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade serves a greater purpose. It's a time to honor the veterans who live among us and to celebrate the values of service and sacrifice they embody. Children look up in awe at the veterans who walk or ride by, gaining a deeper understanding of what it means to serve one's country. For veterans, it's a time to feel the love and support of the community they fought to protect.

One of the most inspiring aspects of the parade is how it showcases the spirit of collaboration. Local schools, businesses, and non-profit organizations all

participate, creating a diverse and colorful display of Albany's close-knit community. Veterans from every branch of service are represented, and many carry flags or wear uniforms that tell the stories of their service. It's a day where everyone, from the youngest child waving a tiny flag to the oldest veteran in attendance, comes together to say “thank you.”

This event does more than just celebrate the past—it helps build a future where veterans are continually honored and respected. By bringing the community together in this way, the parade strengthens local bonds and fosters a sense of shared responsibility for one another. Each year, the event grows, with more floats, more participants, and more spectators lining the streets.

As the parade winds through Albany, it's not just the veterans who are celebrated. It's also a celebration of the community itself—the schools, businesses, and local groups that contribute to making this event a success year after year. Their efforts ensure that each parade is special, meaningful, and a true expression of the gratitude Albany has for its veterans.

Save the Date: Linn County Oregon Veterans Day Parade – November 11, 2024



# From a Parachute To a Wedding Dress

Betsie and I were walking home from school that spring day. I love spring in Nebraska, it is really the only season I like. The rest of the seasons are either brown or covered in feet of snow. This spring morning I was relieved that my parents were buying the Bazant home right in town. Moving off the farm and into the city meant that my senior year would be filled with the activities associated with the last year of high school. Even though there was a war raging in Europe and the Pacific the US was not yet part of the European conflict. We were seniors and looking forward to graduating from Crete High School and attending Doane College in the fall. Our high school was brand new and we were so glad to be getting away from the noisy, screeching elementary school kids. Life was just what I wanted it to be.



We were moved into the house, it was wonderful. I could walk to school everyday with my best friend, Betsie, and have friends over on the weekends. Not that Crete was exactly a booming town, but it worked for me. We were, every day hearing about the conflict in Europe as the US was drafting and sending servicemen to the eastern front to handle the Japanese. I heard about the many Japanese Americans that they rounded up and put into camps, but there weren't any close to us. So, most days that was not part of my experience.

One afternoon that all changed. Did I know that was going to happen, I had no clue. I walked Betsie to her house and continued down the street to what was our new home. And there were the Bazants sitting on the porch with mom and dad. Not that visiting with the Bazants was anything new, but this time they had their son with them. I don't know that I was really aware that they had a son, let alone having ever seen him before. Lloyd Bazant was just what a girl could want. Tall, good looking, sturdy and smart. But he was also the age that he could be drafted at any time. And I had plans, I was going to college and be a teacher, have a career.

As they say "the best laid plans", momma decided to ask Lloyd if he would like to stay with us during his visit here in Crete. And of course, he said yes. So, Lloyd moved in for a visit. Now walking to school with Betsie became a whole new experience because Lloyd walked with us. He would walk us right up to the doors of the school and all of the other girls were suddenly my best friends. That happens in high school when there is a good-looking guy with you. We became great friends that spring. And before long we knew that we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together.

Then came the draft board and Lloyd was gone to basic training. I knew by then that he really wanted to fly and he would do whatever it would take for him to be in the skies. We wrote letters back and forth, almost every day. But the mail was not as reliable as I wanted it to be. Sometimes I would wait days and even weeks for his letter and then a bunch would arrive all at once. He





would be answering questions I didn't even remember asking and ask questions that I had already answered. But just knowing that he was still alive was the best part.

Lloyd was sent to all different bases, first to Ft. Lewis, Washington. He knew he wanted to fly so he joined the Army Air Corps and went to basic training T Buckley Field in Colorado, then gunnery school in Las Vegas Nevada. He came home to Nebraska on a short visit on his way to Tampa, Florida, then on to Gulfport, Mississippi for flying school. After flying school he went to Savannah, Georgia for a wait to catch a flight to Gander Field in Newfoundland. He was stuck there for the whole month of November of 44 until they could finally get a flight to England. They took off after dark for a flight to Paddington, England. He described that flight, flying into the sunrise with clear blue skies and the sun rising over the Ocean. He said the beauty of it took his breath away.

His first mission was on December 31, 1944. By that time the Germans were about out of planes. They either had no fuel or they had been shot down. One morning over England they were on their way as part of a four-squadron formation for a bombing run over Germany. But while still over England one of their engines had an explosion and caught fire. They had a full fuel tank and a full bombing load. The buzzer that told them to abandon ship sounded and he attached his parachute and squiggled out of the hatch and jumped from the plane. As he was in free fall, he watched his friends parachutes open and thought "these things really work". So, he pulled his ripcord and the chute opened. Remember, in those days, the parachutes were made of very thin and finely made silk, a beautiful material.

He landed in a tall tree, just where he was told not to. But that is just like Lloyd. Then there were two men and a woman, farmers in the area, who came and helped him down from the tree. After retrieving his chute, he and one of his buddies were treated to tea and crumpets at the farmhouse. As they headed to the road with his parachute they were met by a Captain in the RAF. So, he took the parachute made of 24 silk panels and cut it up and shared part of it. On their way back to the airfield they found another of their crew who had twisted his ankle on the way down. They picked him up and stopped in front of the WAC barracks for him to be treated. The WAC women were enamored with the silk from the parachute so his friend gave them the chute as long as they shared it equally. Then Lloyd asked what they would do with it, "make underwear" they said.

So, from then on Lloyd was careful to keep the rest of his parachute because he knew that Helen would know what to do with it. He folded it up and stuffed it into an empty cookie tin and sent it to Helen. And he was absolutely correct, I knew exactly what to do with it. I had an Aunt Clara who was a seamstress. And after a few fittings I had my wedding dress. Just for the fun of it, Aunt Clara also made me a bra out of what was left. So, there I am sitting in Crete, Nebraska with a wedding dress but no groom. Wondering when we would be able to finally be together, he was having so many adventures and visiting so many places, some days I wondered if he would ever make it home.

After that he went to Bamber Bridge, England then to Southampton, England where he caught a ship to Boston. From Boston they shipped him to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas for reassignment. After learning he was being assigned to Santa Clara, California but had thirty days leave he finally came to Nebraska. We were married and he thought the wedding dress that Aunt Clara had made for me was beautiful. It still is beautiful. He went ahead of me to California and as soon as he found us a bungalow, I moved to California to live, finally, as husband and wife. We left the service as soon as he was eligible and after a short visit to my parents in Nebraska, we moved to Oregon and as the story goes, we lived happily ever after.

Written by Christine Ferguson

Printed with the permission of the Family of Helen and Lloyd Bizant



A vertical American flag is positioned on the left side of the image, showing the stars and stripes. The background of the entire image is a soft-focus landscape with green grass and distant hills under a blue sky.

## **Fisher Funeral Home and the presenting sponsor for your Lin and its theme "Freedom:**

Since 1912, Fisher Funeral Home has hono  
Fisher salutes not only our veterans toda  
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THANK YOU for your h**

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"Freedom: Continental A**



**the Ordeman Family are proud to be the  
Mid-Valley Oregon Veterans Day Parade,  
from Continental Army to Space Force."**

honor those who selflessly and honorably served our country.  
today, but all of those who came before them. From those who  
Continental Army to the newest branch, the Space Force.

support of our Veterans. Spouses, parents and children, clergy and  
employees, supply line workers, and each of the post military  
Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and  
so many others.

Fisher Funeral Home and the Ordeman Family to stand with the Mid-Valley  
THANK YOU for serving and protecting us.

**our sacrifices.  
honor and legacy.**

**celebrating  
Army to Space Force".**



# The POW/MIA Table



The POW/MIA Table ceremony is a dignified and solemn moment in many formal dinners and other occasions.

There have been many different narratives written for the ceremony, but the symbolism is quite constant. It involves a table, usually set off to the side, with a single chair.

The table is set with a white tablecloth, a single candle, a book of faith (optional), an inverted glass, and a single red rose in a vase, around which is tied a red or yellow ribbon.

Set at the table is a plate containing a slice of lemon and a small amount of salt.

There is nothing more poignant than witnessing the empty chair sitting at a POW/MIA table with incredible significance for every displayed feature of this ritual.

Witnessing the ceremony that accompanies this memorable event brings more than just a single emotion. The ceremony is performed many times throughout the year, at official military events in remembrance and in honor of all POW/MIAs.

Small, Round Table: Represents the frailty of one prisoner, alone against their captors, and the never-ending concern for them.



**White Tablecloth:** Symbolizes the purity of the service members' intentions to answer the call to serve their country.

**Single Red Rose:** Honors the blood shed and reminds us of the family and loved ones who await their return.

**Red Ribbon:** Represents the continuing determination to account for the missing.

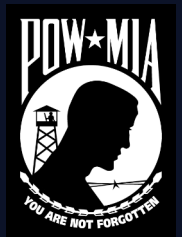
**Lemon Slice:** Signifies the bitterness of their fate.

**Salt:** Sprinkled on the plate, it symbolizes the tears shed by families awaiting their loved ones.

**Inverted Glass:** Represents the fact that the missing cannot toast with us today.

**Empty Chair:** Reminds us that they are not present and their absence is deeply felt.

**Lit Candle:** Signifies the hope for their return.





# Biographies

## *American Rosie the Riveters Association*

### Doreen Kilen

Doreen Kilen worked as a lathe operator at Monarch Forge & Machine in Portland, Oregon while a senior in high school.

Doreen grew up in Monmouth, Oregon. She and her father traveled to Lebanon, Oregon in spring 1943 to be trained on the shaper and lathe. After training, they stayed in Portland during the week at the Roseland Hotel, while working at Monarch making parts for Liberty ships.

Doreen walked to school at Lincoln High in Portland, then her dad drove them to work swing shift (4:00 pm-midnight) at Monarch. As a lathe operator, Doreen read blueprints to determine how the piece needed to be shaped and smoothed, to 1/1000th of an inch accuracy. Workers stood on a platform and wore safety goggles.

In May 1944 they returned to Monmouth so that Doreen could graduate with her class. She then attended Oregon State University, one of only six women majoring in mechanical engineering.

Doreen currently lives in Eugene, Oregon.



### Ardeth Woods

Ardeth was a child during World War II, but she remembers helping. Across the nation, everyone of every age pulled together and helped with the war effort. Ardeth did exactly that in Molalla, Oregon, with her whole family.

"In 1942 & 1943 when I was 5 and 6 years old, I went with my family to sky watch. Dad, Mom, Grandma and I went to the Molalla foothills to watch for enemy airplanes. At first we were in a tent. Later a tower was built. When we heard a plane, Dad would use binoculars to identify it and then telephone it to headquarters. I think they started using radar later, so we didn't do sky watch anymore.

We also saved tin cans, other scrap metal, and cooking fat for the War Effort. We grew a Victory Garden. The whole family went hop picking. I had to pick half a day and could then play. I used the money to purchase War Bonds."

Ardeth continues living in Molalla, Oregon.



*Cont'd on Pg. 28*



# Biographies

*Cont'd from Pg. 27*

## American Rosie the Riveters Association

### Nita Eggers



Juanita "Nita" Eggers worked as a welder at Kaiser Shipyards in Portland, Oregon, and then as a bucker and riveter at Boeing in Seattle, Washington.

"I grew up on a ranch in Eastern Oregon with four brothers, so I learned how to stick up for myself and do hard work of every kind. I graduated in 1944 and took the bus from Ontario to Portland, working as a welder at Kaiser Shipyards. My boss said I was a natural, with a light, steady touch for welding. By 1945 they didn't need as many shipyard workers, but Boeing in Seattle was still making planes. I moved to Seattle where I learned how to be a bucker and riveter. I was thin, so I often worked inside the wings. It was such a tight space that my crew members had to pull me out by my feet."

Nita now lives in Albany, Oregon.

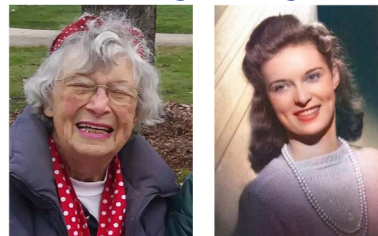
encouraged to contribute a little bit from each paycheck to buy them.

I went to work at the Treasury Department the day after I graduated from high school, June 10, 1942. The typing pool office overlooked the White House Rose Garden. Sometimes it was distracting, looking out the window to see who was arriving at the White House.

I improved from typing 200 bonds a day to over 600 a day. After typing bonds six days a week, nine hours a day for over a year, I was offered a better job working for the Weather Bureau at a substantial pay increase. The work was more interesting, too.

I even attended President Roosevelt's Birthday Celebration!" Doris now lives in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

### Dorothy Key



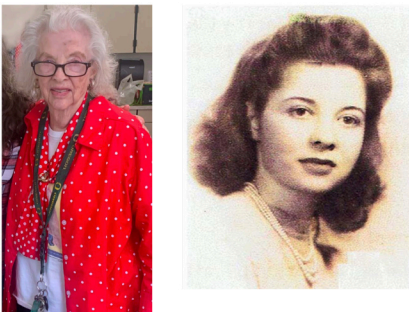
Dorothy Key worked for Hydropac in Los Angeles. She was a machinist working on airplane parts.

"I was born in Canton, Texas, but grew up in Horatio, Arkansas. My school district superintendent had us come to the gym, where we listened to the radio and heard President Roosevelt tell the nation that war had been declared on Japan."

"My older sister was working and living in LA. I had just finished my sophomore year in high school, but I took the bus from the tiny town of Horatio, Arkansas to the big city of Los Angeles, California. I started work right away. I went to school until noon. Then I went to work at the factory for the afternoon shift and sometimes the late shift. We had to wear dresses to school and pants to work, so I carried my clothes with me." Dorothy now lives in Goshen, near Eugene, Oregon.

*Cont'd on Pg. 37*

### Doris Graham



Doris Graham worked for the Treasury Department in Washington D.C. typing War Bonds.

"War Bonds were the way our government financed WWII. Everyone in America was

# USA

## AMERICAN HEROES

# Honor Portraits



This section features Honor Portraits submitted and sponsored by the family and friends of active duty personnel and Veterans of all generations.

We deeply appreciate their service to our nation, and we also acknowledge the sacrifices made by their families, friends, and communities.

"This will remain the land of the free so long as it is the home of the brave."

Elmer Davis

*In Remembrance*  
DOROTHY JEAN PRATT



*United States Army*

Conflict/Era: World War II





# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



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AT



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1205 Price Road SE Albany, Oregon 97322



*Thank you for your service*  
**JERRY PORTER**



*United States Marine Corps*  
Served: 1983-1991  
Conflict/Era: Desert Storm

*Thank you for your service*  
**BRADLEY BRUCE LINDSAY**



*United States Air Force*  
Served: November 24, 1981 - June 1, 1992  
Conflict/Era: Cold War - Desert Shield/Storm

*Thank you for defending our freedom*  
**BLAKE DAWSON**



*United States Air National Guard (ANG)*  
*United States Air Force National Guard*  
**Active**

*An American Patriot & Hero*  
**CARL MARTIN**



*National Guard, 1953-1962*  
*United States Army, 1962-1969 Active*  
*United States Army, 1969-1996 Reserves*  
Conflict/Era: Vietnam War



*Thank you for your service*

DAN PETERSON



*United States Air Force*

Served: September 1983 -  
October 1992

*Thank you for defending our freedom*

DARYL JAMES DAWSON



*United States Navy*

Conflict/Era: Persian Gulf War

*Thank you for your service*  
DUANE WINSLOW



*United States Army*

Served: June 1966 - August 1969  
Conflict/Era: Vietnam

*Thank you for defending our freedom*

FRANKLIN LAY



*United States Army*

Active Duty, Italy

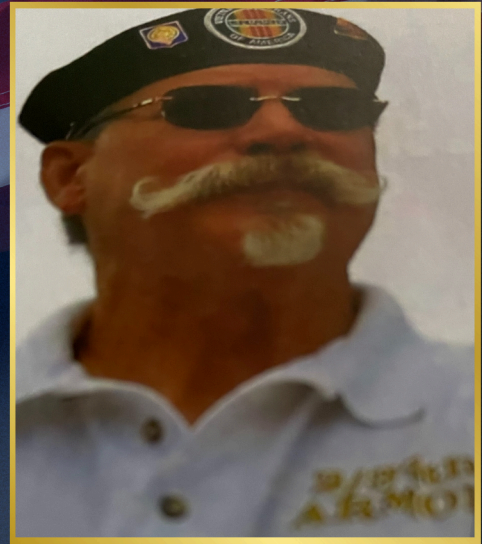


*Thank you for your service*  
**DAVID RUSSELL**



*United States Navy*  
Pearl Harbor Survivor, 12/07/1941  
Conflict/Era: World War II

*In Loving Memory*  
**DENNIS MICHAEL POLLOCK**



*United States Army*  
Conflict/Era: Vietnam War

*In Loving Memory*  
**GARY CROOKER**



*United States Marine Corps*  
*United States Army National Guard*  
Conflict/Era: Vietnam War

*In Loving Memory*  
**JOHN WILLIAM LINDSAY**



*United States Air Force*  
Served: September 1947 - February 1968  
Conflict/Era: Korea - Vietnam



*Thank you for your service*  
MARK M. LAPINSKAS



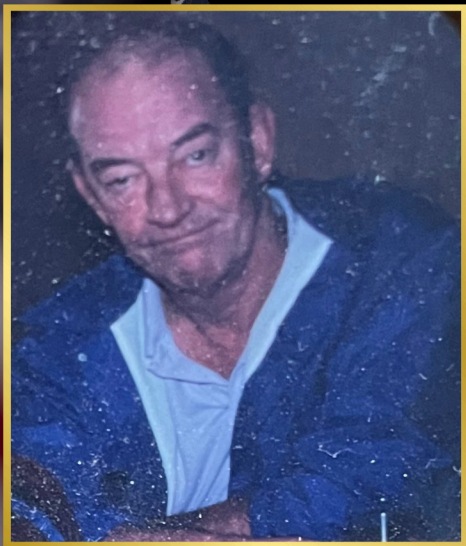
*United States Coast Guard*  
Served: January 1992 - May 1995  
Conflict/Era: Persian Gulf War

*Thank you for your service*  
NICK ANDREWS



*United States Air Force*  
Served: July 2017 - May 2022

*In Remembrance*  
NICK PRATT



*United States Army*  
Conflict/Era: Vietnam War and prior

*In Loving Memory*  
REBECCA JOY (LINDSAY) GARCIA



*United States Air Force*  
Served: November 1, 1976 - August 31, 2007  
Conflict/Era: Cold War - Gulf Wars



*In Loving Memory*  
ROBERT MCFARLAND



*United States Navy*

Served: 1941 - 1945

Conflict/Era: World War II

*An American Patriot & Hero*  
SHAWNACEE LOREN NOBLE



*United States Army National Guard*

Served: June 19, 1990 - April 11, 1991

Conflict/Era: Desert Shield/Storm

*An American Patriot & Hero*  
THOMAS A. DAWSON, JR.

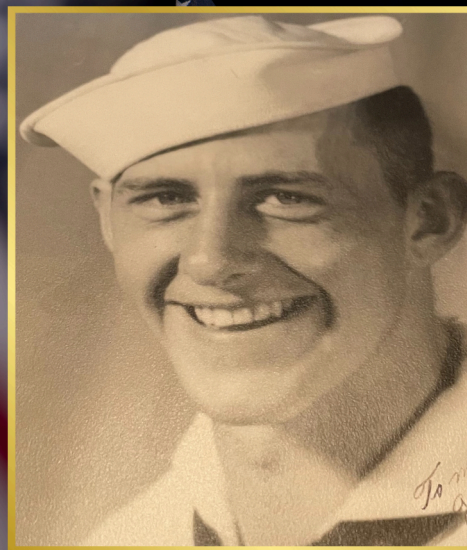


*United States Army*

Served: June 1966 - November 1968

Conflict/Era: Vietnam War

*In Loving Memory*  
THOMAS A. DAWSON, SR.



*United States Navy*

*United States Army*

*United States National Guard*

Conflict/Era: World War II





# HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



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# Biographies

*Cont'd from Pg. 28*

## *American Rosie the Riveters Association*

### Clarice Lafreniere (Age 101)



Clarice Lafreniere worked as a welder and a burner, creating the templates needed, at Kaiser Shipyard on Swan Island in Portland.

"I was born in Colorado, finished schooling there, married in 1939 and had our son in 1940. Soon after that we drove to Oregon. I was listening to our radio and the announcer burst in with 'Pearl Harbor has been bombed and we are at war with Japan!' My daughter was born that very night. I remember the windows at the hospital were covered with blackout curtains, fearing further attacks on the West Coast.

Within weeks, Kaiser opened shipyards at Swan Island and began building Liberty ships. My husband went to work there, but I resisted the "We Need You" signs until our daughter was two. My new wardrobe as a welder was overalls, leathers, jacket, long gloves, steel-toed shoes and a helmet with a safety glass shield."

Clarice now lives in Independence, Oregon.

Patrol.

My volunteer job with the Army Aircraft Warning Services was 'plane spotter.' This position was important because we were close to both the Philadelphia Airport and Fort Dix.

Our group learned to identify silhouettes of both German and American aircraft. We reported all planes coming in from the Atlantic, because we feared attacks on our U.S. mainland. We were stationed, in shifts, at the press box of our high school football field. We reported direction, route, altitude, and type of every plane seen or heard." Dolly now lives in Springfield, Oregon.

### Lorraine Minikel



On her 16th birthday in 1944, Lorraine "took the trolley" to Weber Showcase in Los Angeles, California, and got hired as a riveter of P-38 "Lightning" bomb bay doors.

She had tried to work for them earlier but 16 was the minimum age in California. Never one to love school, she dropped out with her "war service" as the excuse! Riveters were partnered with "buckers" (someone with a piece of heavy metal to provide resistance to the rivet). During lunch they wrote notes they put inside the doors that said "If you're a US Serviceman and you read this - God bless you! If you're the enemy - go to hell!" When her (shy) sweetheart, Ken, got drafted in 1945 she planned their wedding, sent him an invitation to his own wedding, he said "I guess I'd better buy a suit" and they were happily married for 70+ years. Many of her Weber Showcase friends were in attendance.

Lorraine now lives in St. Helens, Oregon.

### Dolly Marshall



Dolly Marshall was in high school when she worked as a plane spotter in New Jersey.

"Everyone—even teenagers-- wanted to do their part to help win the war and bring our loved ones home. I was in high school in Palmyra, New Jersey when my friends and I joined the Civil Air

*Cont'd on Pg. 39*



WE SALUTES ALL WHO HAVE SERVED AND  
CONTINUE TO SERVE.



★ THANK YOU, VETERANS ★  
★ FOR BEING OUR HEROES ★



YOUR BRAVERY WILL NEVER  
BE FORGOTTEN

11 NOVEMBER



Grateful Nation, Honored Veterans



## Florence Rexroad



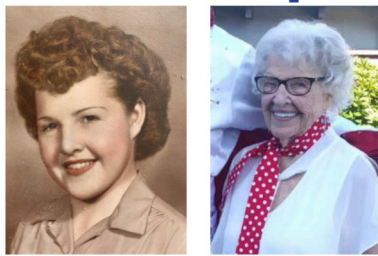
Florence Rexroad worked as a riveter at Boeing Aircraft in Seattle, Washington.

"I was just a teenager in Oregon when my sister Rose broke me out of a Catholic home for unwed mothers. She said we were going to lunch, but instead Rose took me to Seattle on the train. The day after we arrived, Rose and I got jobs working as riveters on the bombers at Boeing. They trained us fast and put us to work. We lived in a house in Burien, near Seattle, and that's where we lived when my first daughter was born.

It was fun, I'm still here, and I'm still smiling. I laugh at myself and I sing all of the time."

Florence now lives in Springfield, Oregon.

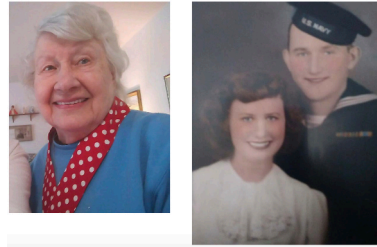
## Gazena Dolphin



Gazena Dolphin lived in Iowa and worked as a hemp comber. Hemp was used to make rope for the Navy.

Gazena recalls, "Hemp has 50,000 uses and it can grow 6 to 15 feet tall. When the war broke out, they built a hemp plant at Britt, Iowa. When it was time to harvest they would bring it into the building and put it on a tall conveyor. The hemp hung 6 to 7 feet on each side of the conveyor. It would move slowly to the front of the building where us gals used a tool, a large comb, to comb it until all the snarls were out. It then went onto a rack and was transported out of the building by truck, taken to a plant and made into rope. The more ships they built, the more rope they needed for the U.S. Navy. We were short of help and they brought in prisoners of war to help. The war camp was 20 miles from us. Six or so truck loads with 12 in each truck and one guard. They would help harvest the hemp." Gazena now lives in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

## Romaine Smith *Cont'd from Pg. 37*



Romaine Smith worked in Pennsylvania, first in a factory making parachute silk, then doing wiring on fighter planes, and then becoming a welder on cargo planes.

"My first job, in my hometown, was at a factory making

silk for parachutes. Then I worked in Hasbro and lived in a rooming house that was an old farm house with 8-10 rooms for workers. I worked 12 hours, night shift, on an assembly line that installed the tubing for electrical wiring and radios for fighter planes. I worked on a crew of 6 – 5 men and me.

When the Hasbro plant slowed down, I went to Philly and worked as a welder for cargo planes at the Budd Manufacturing Company. In Philadelphia, there were thousands of servicemen! They covered the streets!"

Romaine now lives in McMinnville, Oregon.







## Linn Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Supporting our Community Since 1914

The Daughters of the American Revolution honors and preserves the legacy of our American Patriots who fought and sacrificed for the freedoms that we enjoy today. The basis of the Society is to perpetuate the memory and spirit of these patriots by promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through education.

The Chapter has supported our troops and veterans since the chapter began in 1914. Beginning with WWI we helped provide for American troops and sent money abroad for war relief. Members continue to support our active duty military and veterans.

The Chapter has participated in the Veteran's Day parade these past 72 years.

Ribbons, trophies, photos and memories are part of the 109 year history of Linn Chapter.



2022 Veterans Day Parade including members from six DAR chapters, and members from the SAR and C.A.R.

Linn Chapter entry in the



During the 1920s and the 1930s, Linn Chapter was responsible for placing eleven historical markers at various places in Linn County.

Community education includes volunteer time, and donations for students of books, clothing, snacks and scholarships.

Mrs. Virginia Koos (1918-2018), a dedicated member who has passed away, stated at the 2014 Chapter Centennial: "It is impossible to relate all of our accomplishments... Suffice it to say that we are proud of our history and of all of the members who made their contributions toward it. We do not plan or intend to rest

on our laurels. We hope to continue to be a vital force in our community, to be able to adapt to changes, and to make changes ourselves for God, Home, and Country."

Today, there are currently more than 190,000 members in DAR. the National Society since it was founded. We are all looking forward to celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as we continue to support our communities and Nation. visit [DAR.org](http://DAR.org) or [LinnChapterDAR.weebly.com](http://LinnChapterDAR.weebly.com)

Over one million women have joined

For more information about DAR,



In July 2026, the United States will mark its 250th Anniversary —  
DAR is preparing to celebrate in a big way!





# Honoring our Veterans



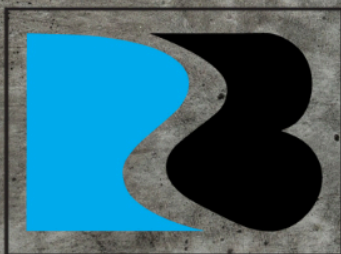


# *Veterans Day*

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED

---

This nation will remain the land of  
the free only so long as it is the  
home of the brave



**RiverBend**  
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*Our freedom  
Your sacrifice*

*Thank you to all who wear the uniform  
past, present and future,  
in service to our country*

*Burcham's  
Metals*



# Linn County

## *Veteran's Memorial*

Simply put, the mission of the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) is: "Building and Maintaining a Fitting and Proper Memorial", for all those citizen soldiers of Linn County who have died in service to our county in the wars and conflicts of the 20th and now the 21st centuries. The Linn County Veterans Memorial is the only memorial or venue that honors living and deceased veterans for their service. For this reason, it is a fitting and proper place for the annual memorial service every Veterans Day prior to the Linn County Veterans Day Parade held on the streets of Albany.

After years of planning and fundraising, The Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) presented the Albany Parks Department with the plan for the expansion including drawings, material estimates, and the scope of the planned expansion that the Memorial Association had been working on since 2013. The City of Albany then submitted an application for a 2020 Veterans and War Memorials Grant. Then the 2020 pandemic created a delay; later an approved grant, but without funding; and eventually, partial funding in the amount of \$11,250 on March 10,

2021, with a start date of March 8, 2021 and an end date of April 28, 2023. The Linn County Veterans Memorial Association (LCVMA) would like to thank: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Kuri Gill, Grant and Outreach Coordinator; Albany Parks and Recreation Director Kim Lyddane, Parks and Facilities Maintenance Manager Rick Barnett; Maintenance Crew including Don Lulay, Pete Shelby who are always great to work with; Debbie Little, Administrative Services Coordinator for her great handling of all the records, receipts, and reports necessary for the completion of the Oregon Parks Grant. An overwhelming majority of the labor has been volunteer, many of the materials were donated to the project by local merchants and businesses in the Mid-Willamette Valley. The LCVMA wishes to say thank you to all the people who donated time, materials, labor, and professional services necessary to complete this project: Gary Grossman and Gary Grossman Concrete for finishing and concrete work, River Bend Materials, Dave Perlenfein and the crew at Albany Rental for excavators, jumping jacks, compactors, wheel tractors, ditch diggers and trailers used for the complete project; Lowes Home Center for rebar, form material and miscellaneous stakes, screws, and construction tape; Riverbend Materials for their continuing support of the Linn County Veterans Memorial.

The Linn County Veterans Memorial grew by nearly one third between 2020 and 2023. The latest (and possibly the last) expansion of the memorial added about 200 feet of sidewalks north of the original memorial, and plinths (foundations) for an additional twelve sentry walls. A part of that





expansion also involved moving the bronze plaques from the original Linn County War Memorial from the location near the kiosk and flags to the Veterans Grove in a similar location to where they originated many years ago. That relocation will allow for the building of a Gold Star Families Memorial which has been planned and is anticipated to be completed in 2024.

Funding for the expansion was raised by selling engraved bricks for the existing sentry walls and a grant from the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, Heritage Program. The expansion was made possible through the continuing partnership between the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association and the City of Albany.

The LCVMA's mission was put in place by the late Garner Pool, the first President and one of

the founders of the Linn County Veterans Memorial Association, a non-profit corporation. In the beginning a majority of the bricks were purchased by living veterans for their own service

and their ancestors who also served. Today, that tradition continues, but the majority of the

bricks are purchased by surviving relatives of veterans who have passed on. An engraved brick to be placed on one of the sentry walls at the memorial can be purchased for any veteran who served honorably in the military by the veteran, a relative, or friend. The price, set at \$50 in 2006 has never changed. At first the price of the brick and the engraving was only about half of that amount, and the remainder of the money was used to maintain the service flags, build more

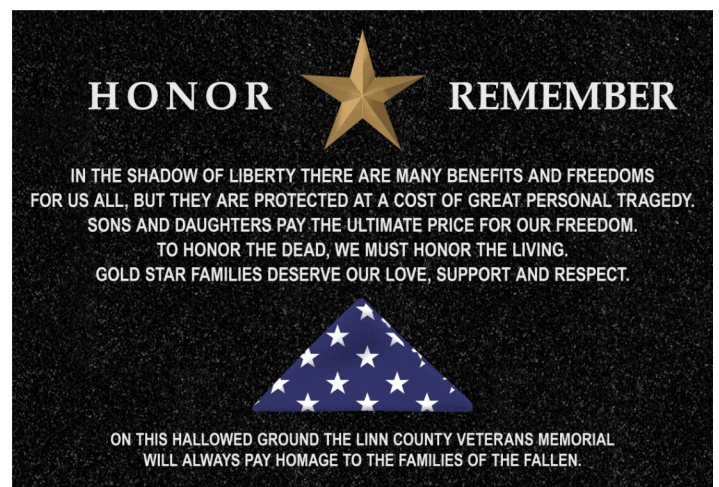


walls and pay for miscellaneous needs at the memorial. Today, the majority of the money goes to the brick itself, engraving costs, materials to apply the brick to the wall. The available space for sentry walls is limited, and there will be a time when the LCVMA will have to stop selling the sentry wall bricks and find innovative ways to continue to honor those who have served honorably.—

Most of all, President Robin Nygren, the officers, and board members of the LCVMA are most

thankful for living here in the Mid-Willamette Valley, where a supportive community truly believes

in honoring its veterans. For more information about the memorial, the purchase of sentry bricks, to volunteer, or donate to the building of the Gold Star Families Memorial, our mailing address is PO Box 2739, Albany, Oregon 97322.



"LCVMA seeks donations for The future Gold Star Family memorial monument depicted in above photo."





**Thank you  
Veterans!**



Proven to **perform.**



★ With respect, honor, and gratitude ★

# THANK YOU VETERANS



**Bonaventure**  
*of Albany*



We honor those who have served,  
those currently serving  
and their families.



Bill Burcham



Don David



Mike Egan



Dale E. Blanshan



Margaret Woods



James R Engel



Alisha Whitelaw



Gilbert PirkI



Ed Robinson



Ken Justus



Leon Johnston



Herman (Frank)  
Farmer



Fred Schafer



LeRoy E.  
Pedersen





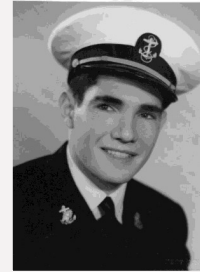
Mack Ashby



Ray Bidwell



John A.  
Book Sr



John R Camp



Virginia C Weir



Carl Engstrom Jr



John Fruetel



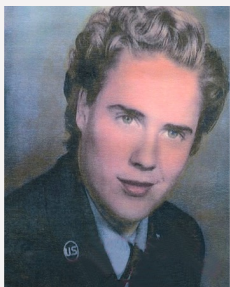
Willa M. Brand  
(Evans)



Art Jensen



Gary Garrett



Gloria Galvan



Bud Spencer



Robert J Shine



Gary Zumwalt



Chet Russell



Mike Brady



Wesley W.  
Whiting



Wm. N. (Nick)  
Heineck



Peter F Butler



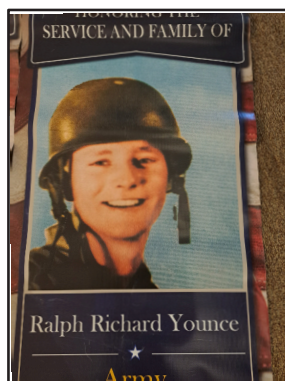
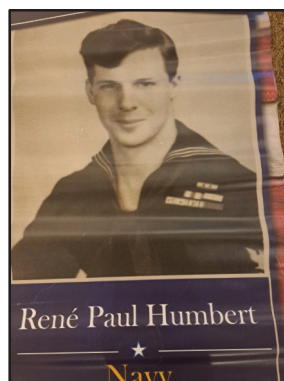
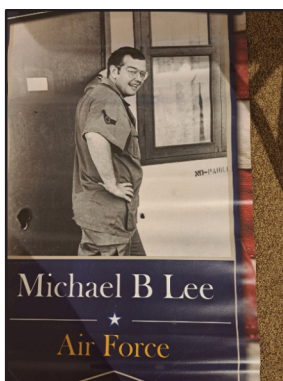
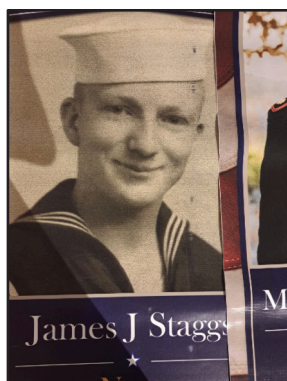
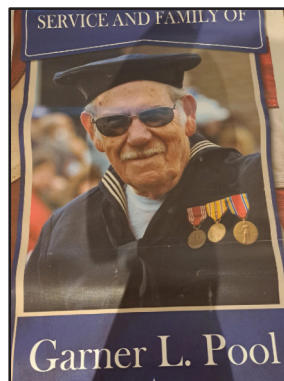
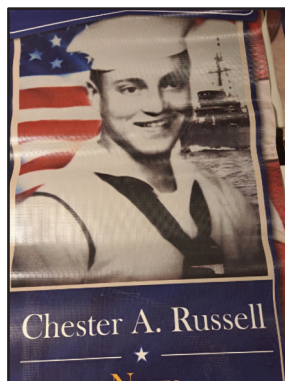
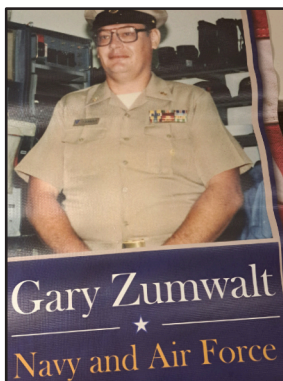
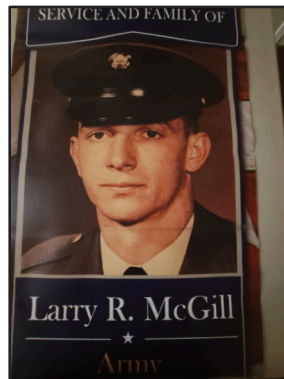
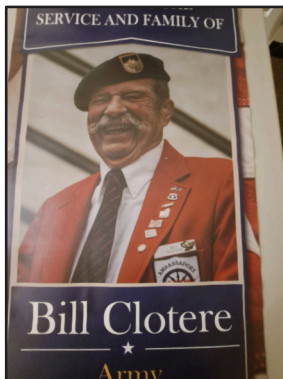
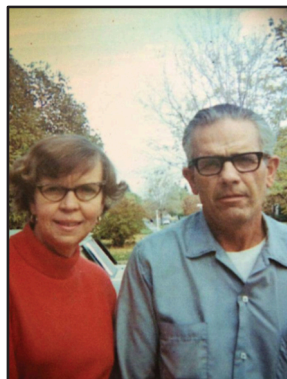
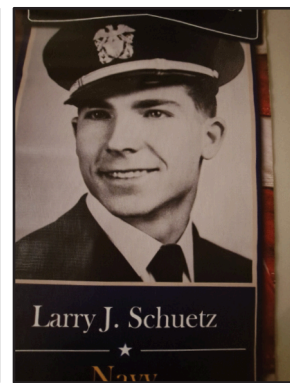
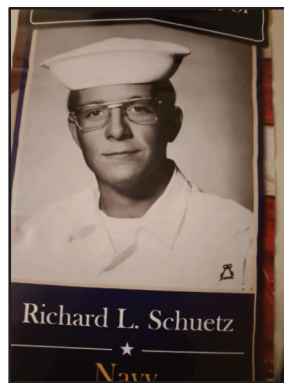
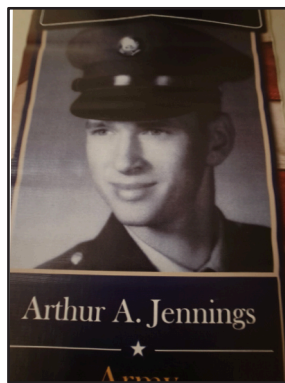
Ida Stemple

*Burcham's  
Metals*



# Banner Profiles

*Thank you Greater Albany Rotary Club!*







Rodney Charles Knoffe



Robert L. Weber



Pedro Manuel Gutierrez



Darwynne Charles Knoffe



Jared Lemerande



Enoch Dixon



Bill Burcham



Frank M. Marquis



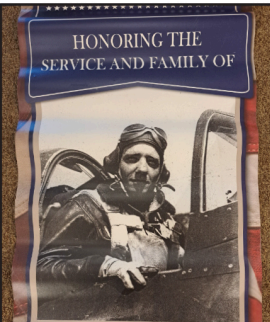
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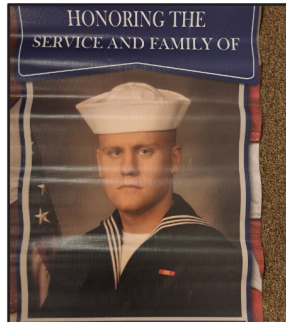
Claude Porter Rogers



René Paul Humbert



Charles "Chuck" Lewis



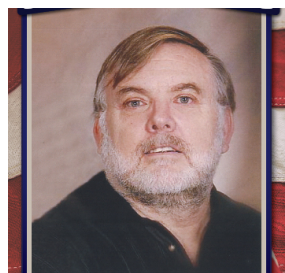
Drake R. Karstens



Carl E. Engstrom Jr.



David Mack Burt



Anthony S. May  
★  
Air Force



Elliott M. Sipe  
★  
Navy



Harold J. Hoch  
★  
Air Force



Charles Robert Snyder  
★  
Army



Ernest "Ernie" Johnson  
★  
Navy



Harrison M. Weatherford  
★  
Army



Cory H. Carlson  
★  
Navy



Eugene G. Vailancourt  
★  
Air Force

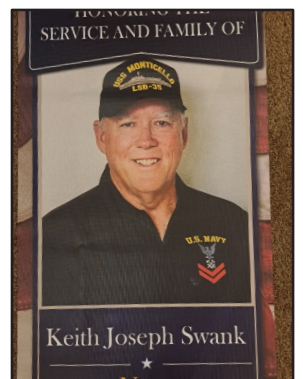
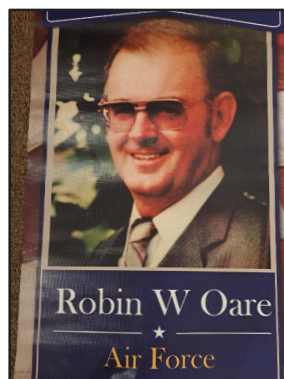
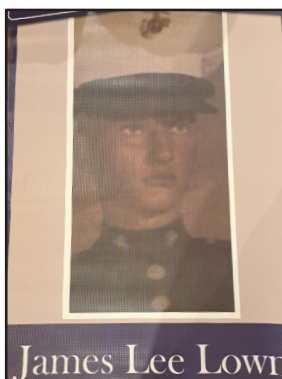
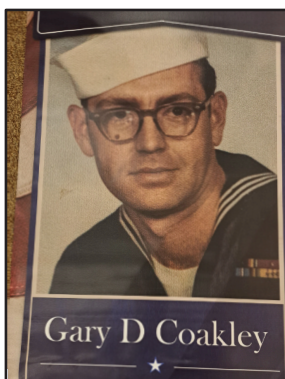
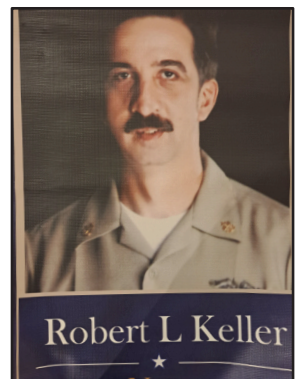
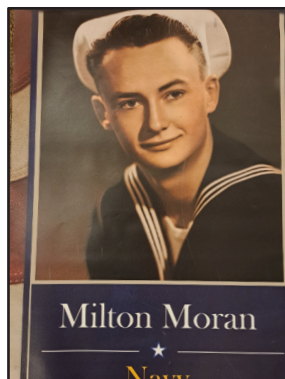
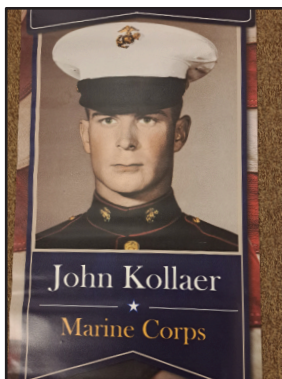
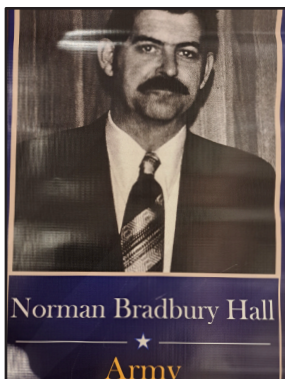
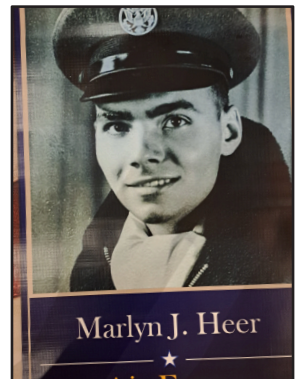
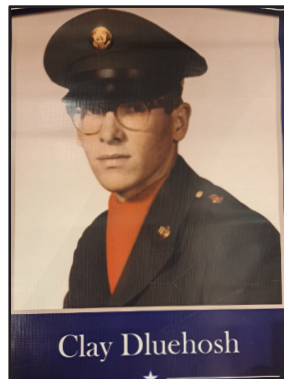
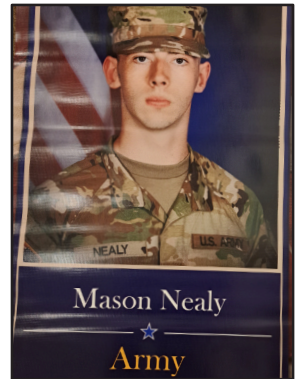
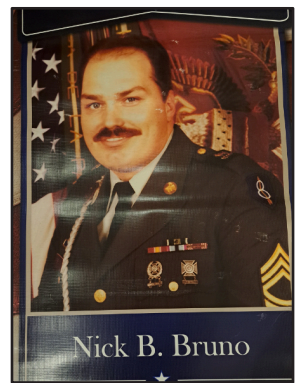
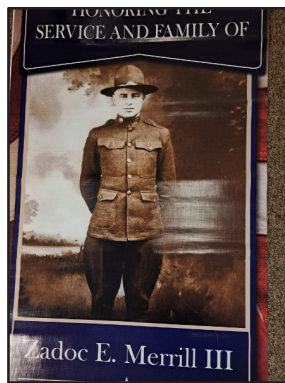
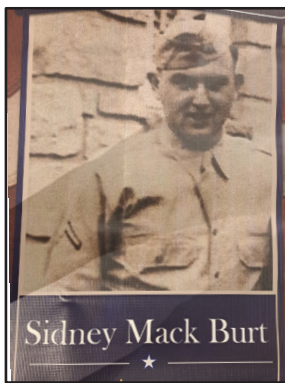


Howard M. Taylor  
★  
Navy

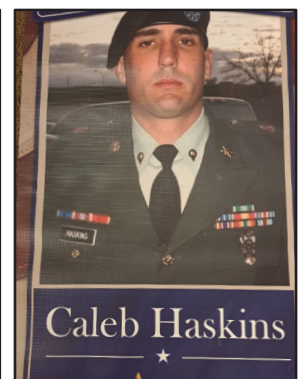
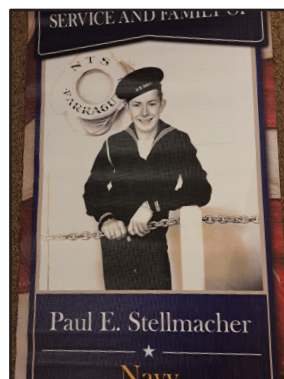
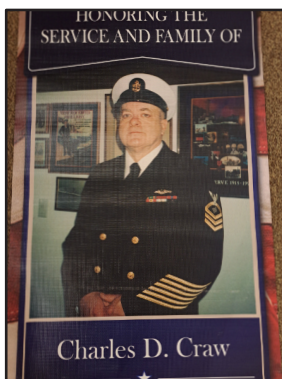
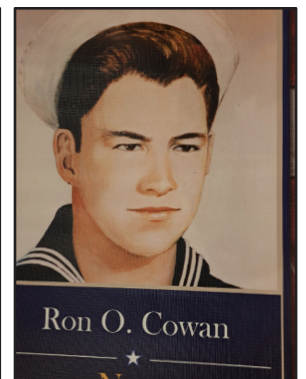
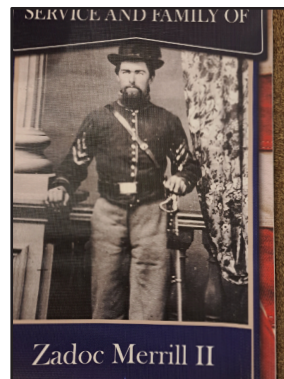
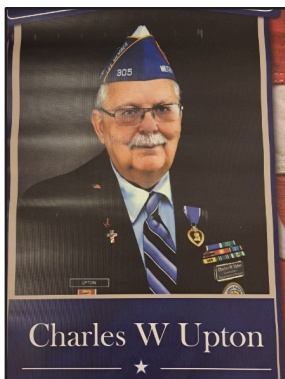
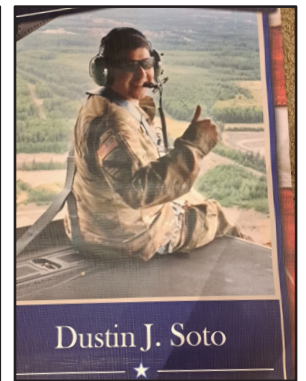
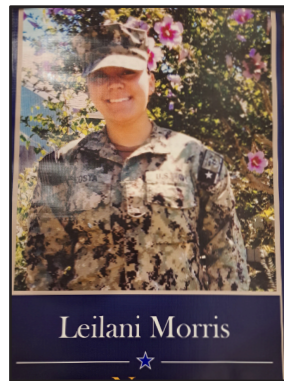
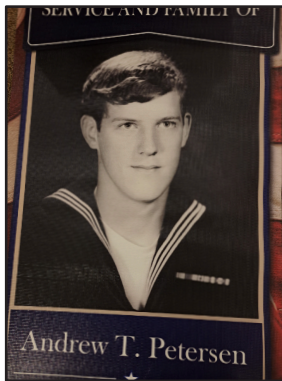
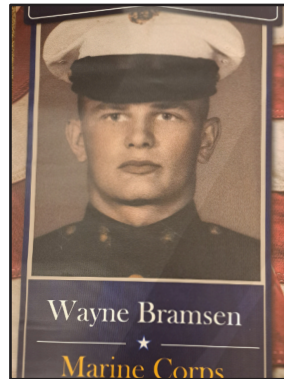
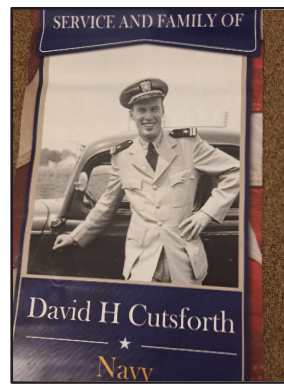
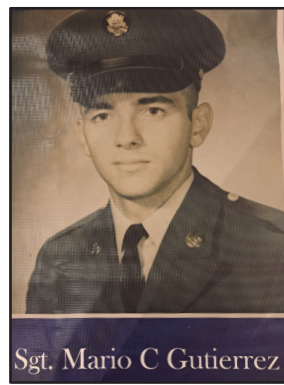
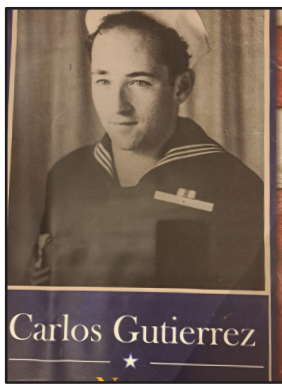


Earl McDaniel  
★  
Army

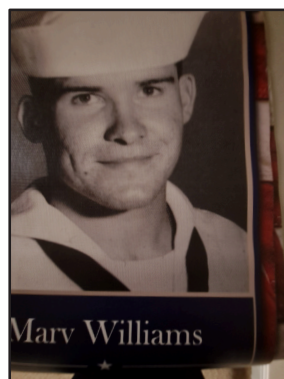
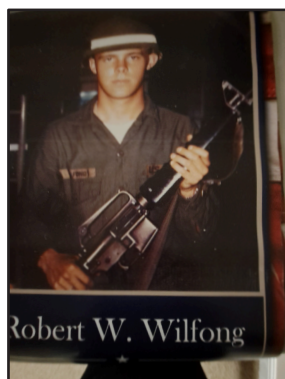
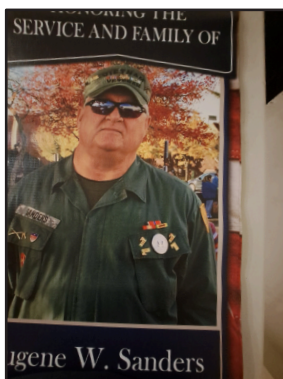
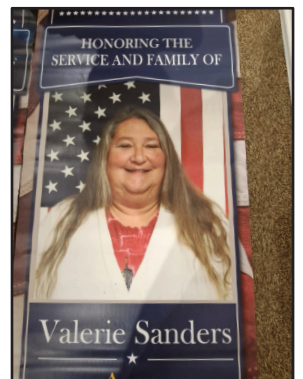
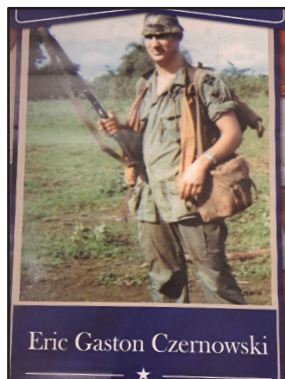
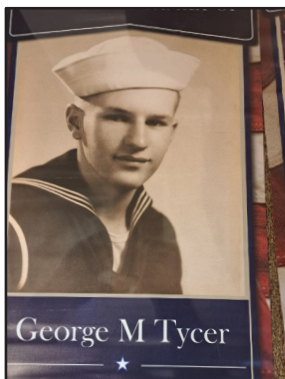
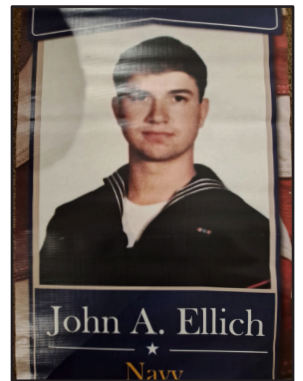
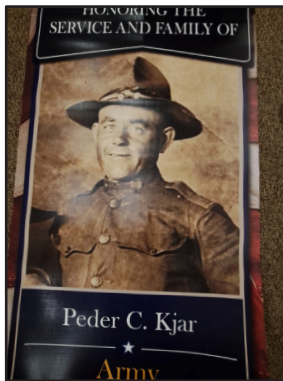
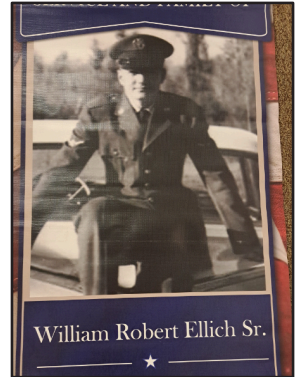
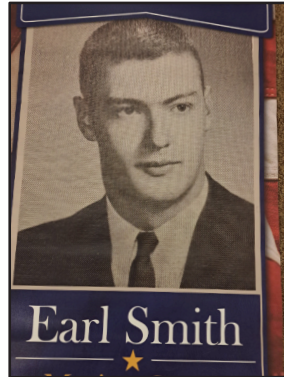
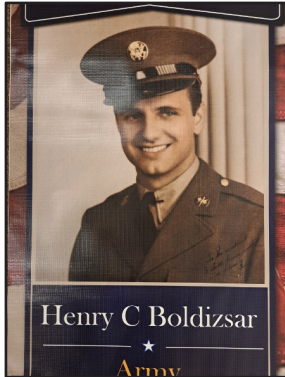
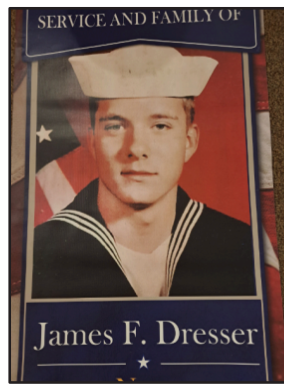
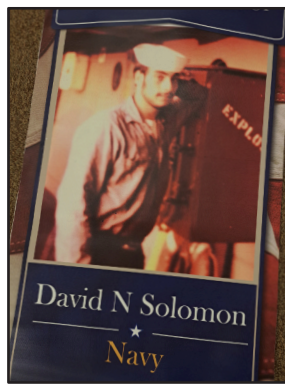
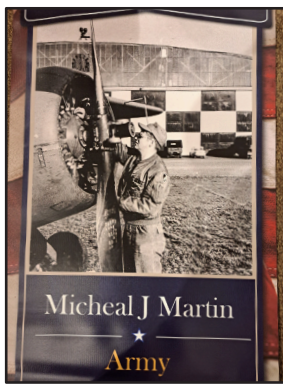




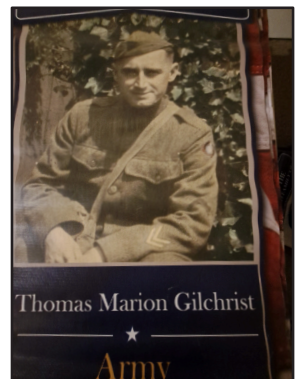
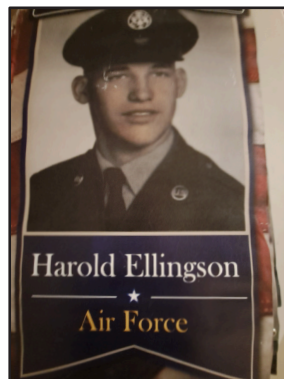
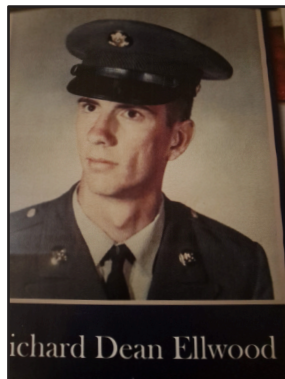
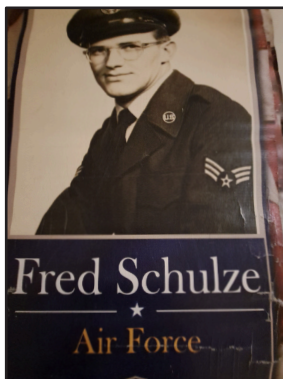
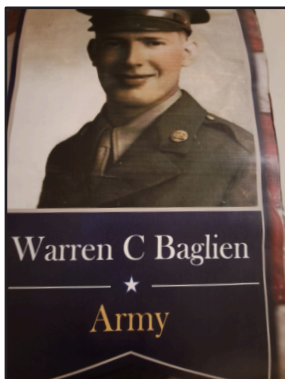
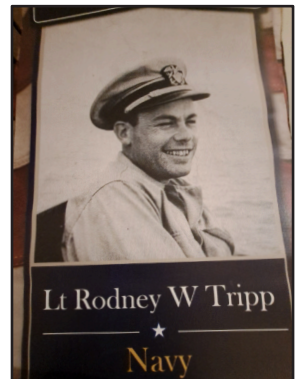
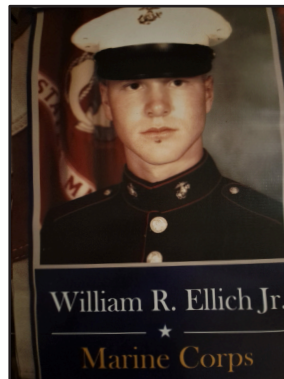
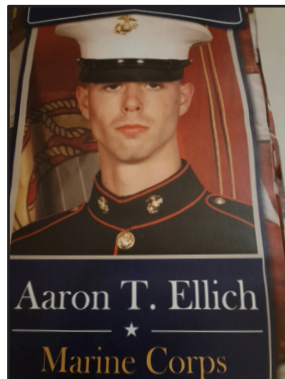
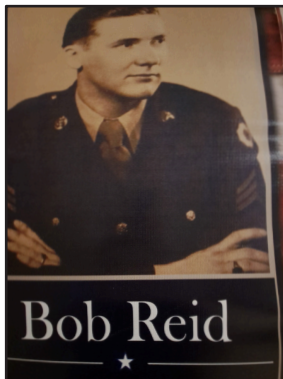
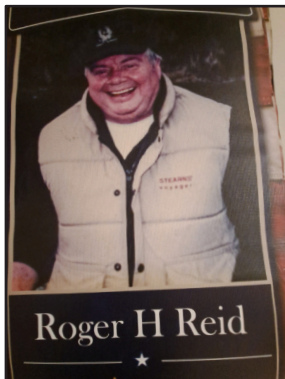
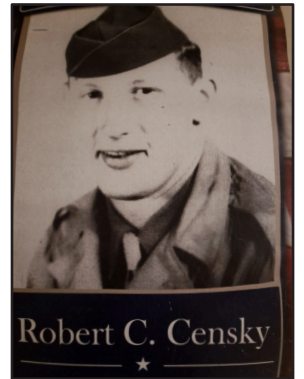
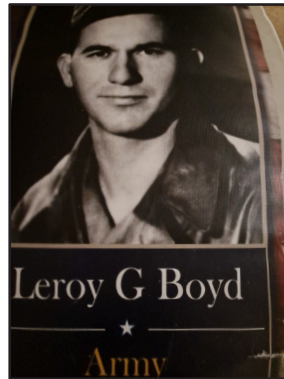
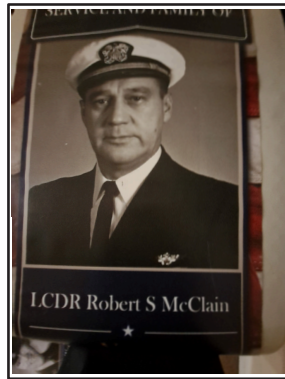
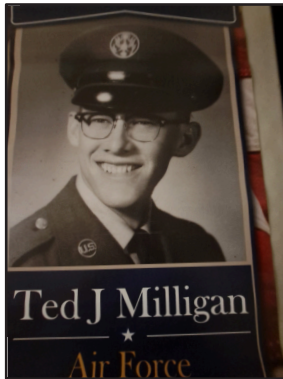
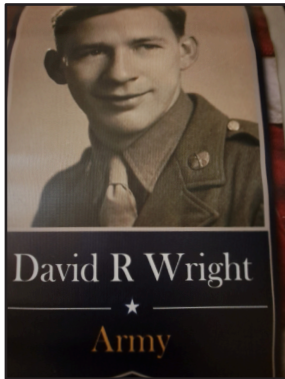
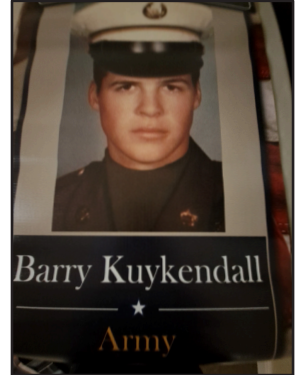
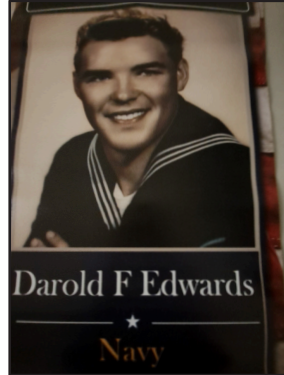
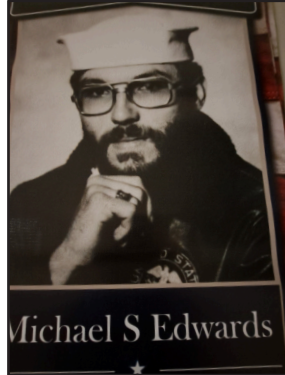
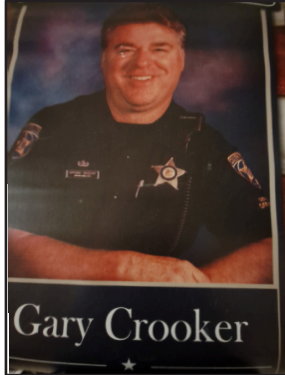
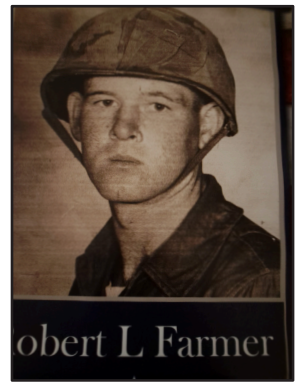
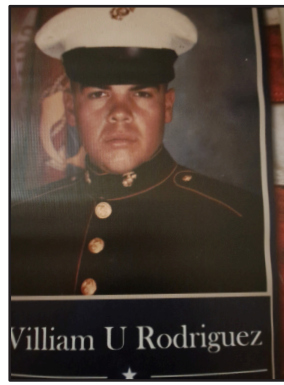
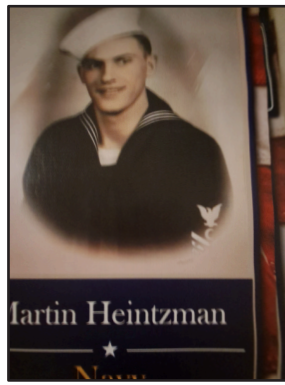
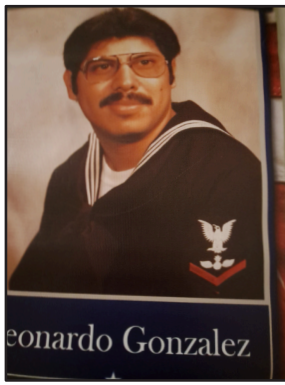








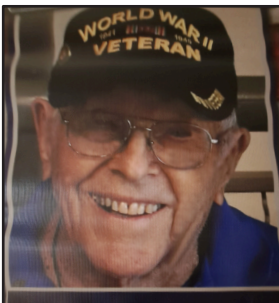








Thurston Pierce Gilchrist



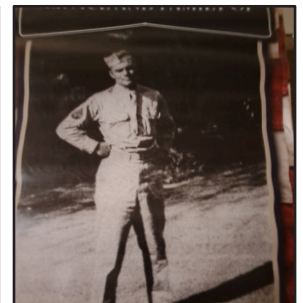
Douglas Blair



Bob Knight



Marland Leslie Rice



Marland Dee Rice

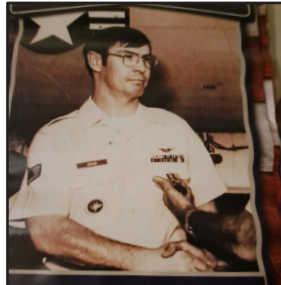


James R. Marshall



James L Hope

Army



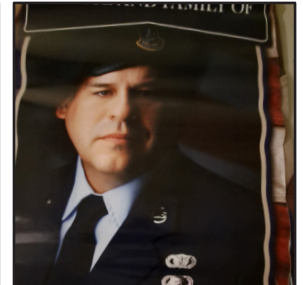
Olive T Doran

★



Patrick D. Wilson

★



Eric Aguinaga

★



Geoffrey Woytt



Stephen Woitt

★



Craig S Lilly

★

Marine Corps



Gage Bramsen

★

Marine Corps



Brent Riley

★



Del Riley

★



Bobby Eugene Cornelious

★

Navy



Charles Dale Cornelious

★



R. Mack Ashby



Christine Bailey

★

Air Force



Jack R. Powers

★

Army



Cathew Allyn Morris



Robert B Morris

★



Keith Vincent Wardrip

★

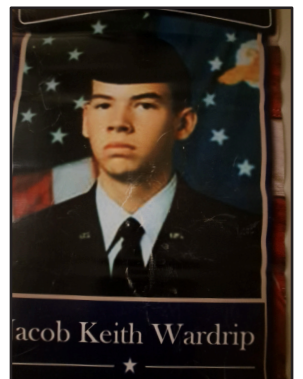
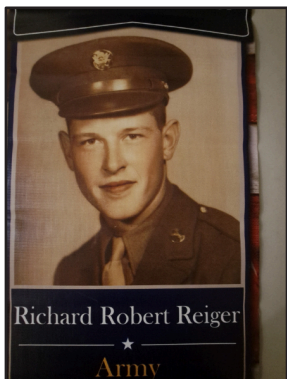
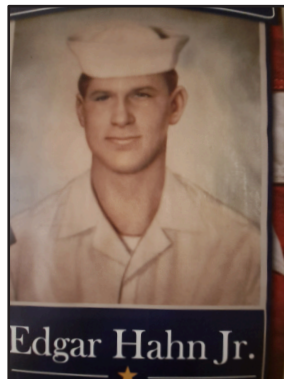
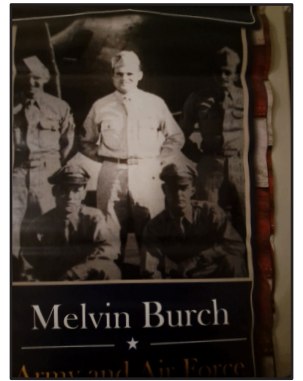
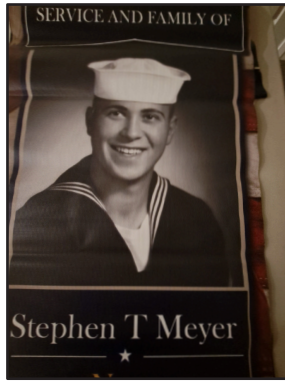
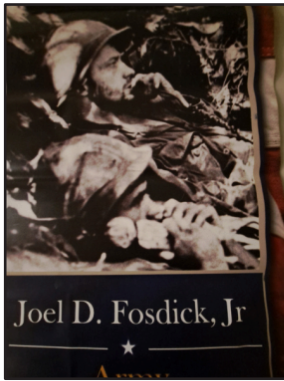
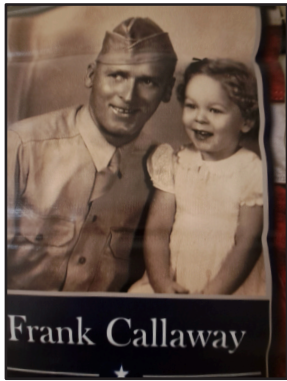
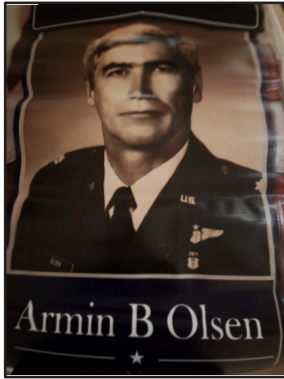
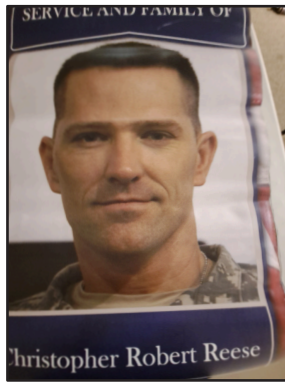
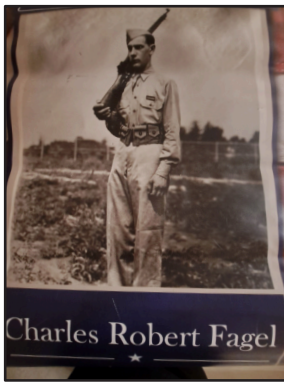
Air Force



Don McMorris

★

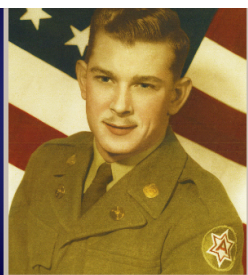








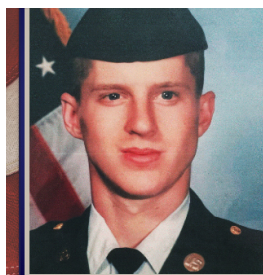
Garry Black  
★  
National Guard



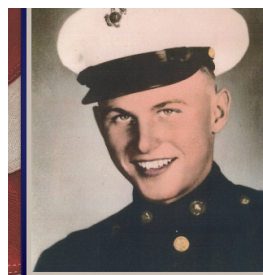
James Eugene Riggan  
★  
Army



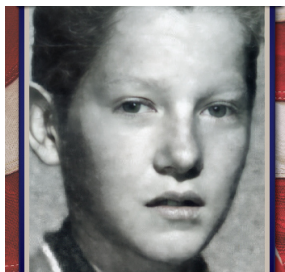
James L. Barrett  
★  
Marine Corps



Joshua Jared Curtis Moyes  
★  
Army



Marlin L. Cox  
★  
Marine Corps



Jimmy Lynn Delano  
★  
Marine Corps



Keely Driggs  
★  
Army



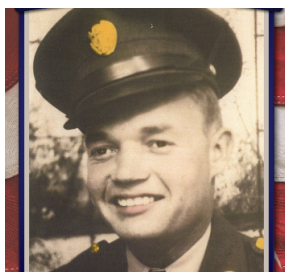
Marvin "Shorty" Lindberg  
★  
Army



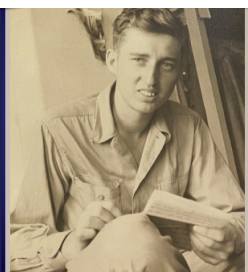
John Hawkins  
★  
Army



Kimberly A. Granville  
★  
Navy



Monty L. Bell  
★  
Army



Joseph J. Spiruta  
★  
Army



Mark V. Weatherford  
★  
Army



Nicholas G. Andrews  
★  
Air Force



Normal L. Boyanovsky  
★  
Air Force



Richard A. Akin Jr.  
★  
Army



Wendell J. Heintzman  
★  
Navy



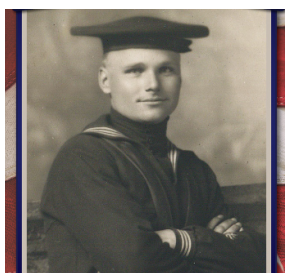
Phil Van Buren  
★  
Navy



Richard Holly  
★  
Army



Cole R. Emmons  
★  
Army



R.C. "Bob" Sipe  
★  
Navy



Shane Gjesdal  
★  
Navy



Randy Falconer  
★  
Army



Wayne Byington  
★  
Navy





★★★  
GOD BLESS  
**OUR VETERANS**  
★★★

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**From Sea to Shining Sea, We Thank Our Veterans**



**A special thanks to the Albany Police Department for their continued support and making this year's parade possible!**







ON NOVEMBER 11, WE HONOR  
THOSE WHO SERVE,  
AND THANK ALL PAST AND  
CURRENT MILITARY PERSONNEL.

Happy Veterans Day!





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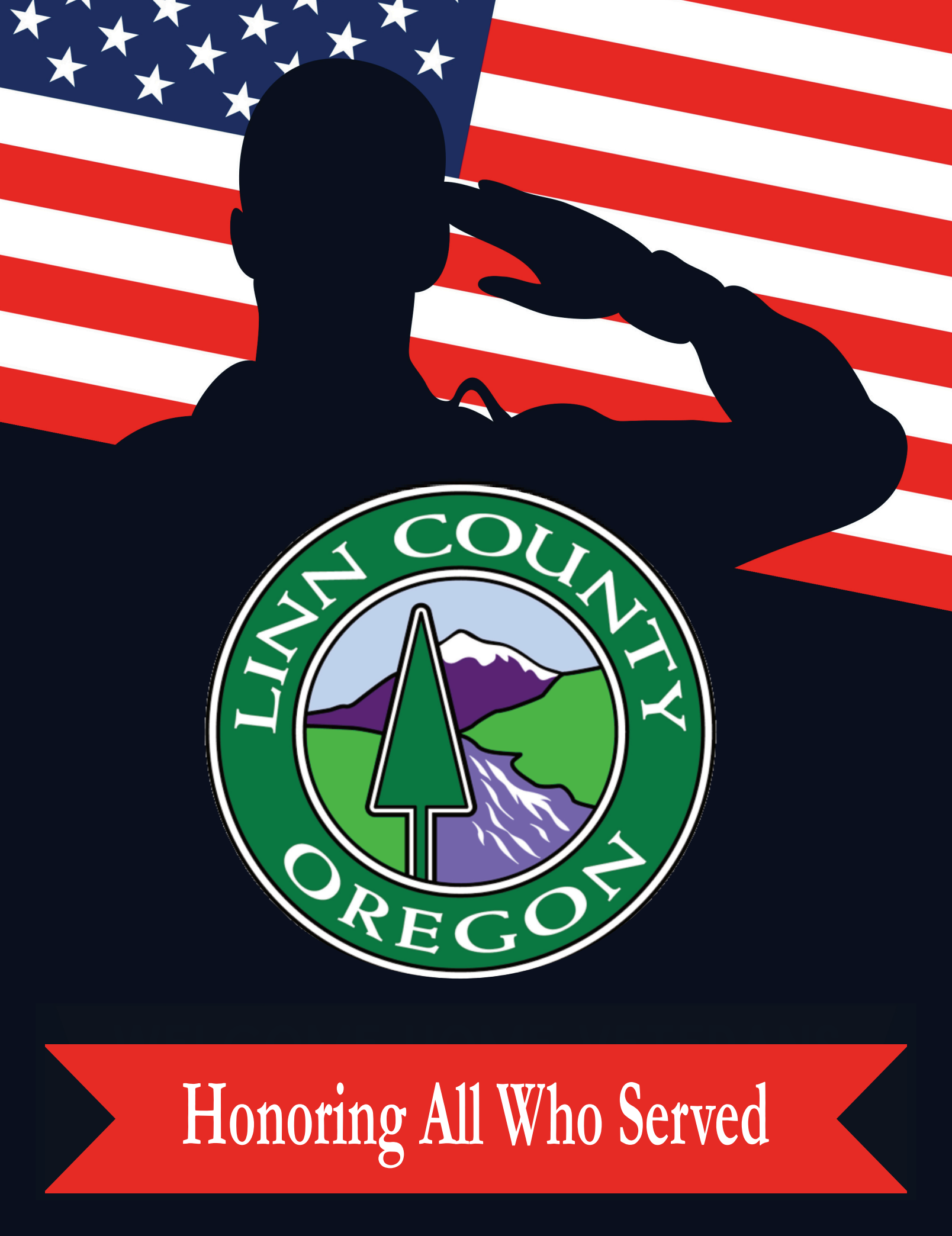
# VETERANS DAY



# NOVEMBER 11







Honoring All Who Served